



THE ROYAL PARKS

The Royal Parks Regulations

Consultation

Amending the Royal Parks Regulations

07 September 2020 – 01 November 2020

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Section 1: Introduction

- *The Royal Parks* is the charity that manages and cares for over 5,000 acres of historic parkland and green space across London.
- The parks we manage are Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park, The Green Park, The Regent's Park and Primrose Hill, Richmond Park, Bushy Park, and Greenwich Park. We also manage other important public spaces including Victoria Tower Gardens and Brompton Cemetery.
- We believe that parks have the power to make a positive difference to people's lives. Mounting evidence suggests that being able to spend time in green spaces surrounded by nature and wildlife makes us healthier and happier. Parks can enrich lives and enhance wellbeing of those who visit.
- Managing the parks involves balancing the needs of different users, protecting, and enhancing the historic landscapes and environment and caring for the rich biodiversity and wildlife. The Park Regulations sets out a code of behaviour for the park environment, which helps to ensure that they can be enjoyed by everyone
- The Secretary of State has powers under the Parks Regulations (Amendment) Act 1926 to make regulations to secure the proper management of the Royal Parks. The current principal regulations are The Royal Parks and Other Open Spaces Regulations 1997 (SI 1997 No.1639), as amended. Changes are subject to Parliamentary approval.
- This consultation paper concerns proposed changes to The Royal Parks Regulations. The last major change to the regulations was in 1997, although there have been some changes since then.

Further information about The Royal Parks and our charitable objectives is available on our website at: www.royalparks.org.uk

Section 2: Proposed Changes to the Royal Parks Regulations

The Royal Parks is proposing to amend the regulations. Our proposals are set out below.

Introduction of Parking Charges in Bushy and Richmond Parks

- Introducing parking charges in Bushy and Richmond Parks is consistent with parking across the rest of the Royal Parks' estate and aligns with principle three of the Movement Strategy: *We will encourage the use of more sustainable ways to access and travel through the parks.*
- It will also discourage the use of the car parks by commuters who are not visiting the park.
- The principle of paid parking is long established and most authorities surrounding the parks with public parking provision apply charges. Parking charges are already in place at the other parks we manage that have public parking. While not being punitive to those who wish to visit by car, we hope the charges will encourage people to use more sustainable means of visiting. The scheme includes a maximum stay, intended both to ensure a reasonable turnover of spaces (which would be fairer to people than our current system) and minimise the impact of non-park visits who use our car parks.
- The proposed scheme would also raise revenue towards the maintenance and upkeep of related park infrastructure.

Details of the scheme

- We propose that parking charges should be introduced in all the public car parks in Bushy and Richmond Parks, and would welcome your views on the proposed charges and conditions as set out below.

Bushy Park

Monday – Saturday £1.40 per hour to a maximum of 6 hours

Sunday £2.0 per hour to a maximum of 6 hours

Richmond Park

Monday – Saturday £1.40 per hour to a maximum stay of 6 hours

Sunday £2.0 per hour to a maximum of 6 hours

- These charges would apply for the hours 9.00am to 6:00pm whenever the car parks are open.
- There would be a maximum stay of six hours in any one car park.
- A set proportion of the available parking spaces would be designated for Blue Badge holders.
- Blue Badge holders and motor bikes would be exempt from the charges, but subject to the maximum stay limit.

Section 3 How to provide feedback

To make a submission to the proposed implementation of parking charges in Richmond and Bushy Parks please do so before the close of consultation on 01 November 2020:

Online questionnaire:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/parkingcharges-consult>

Email submission:

consultation@royalparks.org.uk

Written submission addressed to:

TRP – Parking Charges
The Old Police House
Hyde Park, London. W2 2UH