



Neuadd y Sir / County Hall, Llandrindod, Powys, LD1 5LG

## **QUESTIONS AT ANY TIME TO CABINET PORTFOLIO HOLDERS**

<b>Question From:</b>	County Councillor Iain McIntosh
<b>Subject:</b>	Blue Badges follow up question
<b>Question To:</b>	County Councillor Jackie Charlton Cabinet Member for a Greener Powys

### **Question:**

Further to previous questions and concerns raised with Cabinet members on 23<sup>rd</sup> February regarding the introduction of parking charges for blue badge holders here; <https://powys.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=867&MId=8524&Ver=4>, I would like to raise another concern and ask for a response please. As you are aware, Blue Badge parking spaces are strategically positioned in Powys car parks to provide disabled individuals with closer access to shops and facilities, significantly reducing the distance they need to walk. This thoughtful placement has been instrumental in supporting the mobility and independence of disabled people within the community.

The introduction of parking charges for Blue Badge holders raises substantial concerns about accessibility and convenience. Specifically, the necessity for Blue Badge holders to locate and walk to ticket machines, which may be situated a considerable distance from designated Blue Badge parking spaces, could pose significant challenges. This change could inadvertently compromise the very principle of accessibility and support that the Blue Badge scheme aims to uphold.

In light of these concerns, I kindly request the following information:

- Could the Council provide details on how many car parks have ticket machines placed in locations that would require Blue Badge holders to walk a longer distance from their parked vehicle in designated parking spaces to purchase a parking ticket?
- In addressing the potential accessibility issues this change might introduce, is the Council considering any plans to relocate ticket machines closer to Blue Badge parking spaces, or implement alternative solutions to ensure that the introduction of parking charges does not impede the accessibility and independence of disabled individuals?
- I hope Powys County Council is committed to inclusivity and accessibility for all members of our community and I hope the current administration can find effective solutions that maintain the accessibility and support needed by disabled residents and visitors to Powys.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to your response and am hopeful for a positive outcome that aligns with our values of accessibility and inclusivity.