

Date: 26/10/2018

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST 014440 – Car parking

**1. Do hospitals in your area charge patients/visitors to park in their own car park?**

**2. If so, how much do they charge?**

**3. Do the hospitals operate their car park under a PFI contract?**

In response to your questions above:

The patient visitor/car parks are owned and operated under a PFI contract. Information as follows can be found on the Trust website under the following link: <http://dudleygroup.nhs.uk/patients-and-visitors/car-parking/>

Car parking is available at all three hospital sites with designated spaces for Blue Badge holders close to each of the hospital entrances.

A 'pay on exit' system is in operation on all of the car parks and people wishing to leave their vehicles will need to take a ticket from the barrier upon entry.

The parking tariff is:

- Free for first fifteen minutes
- 15 to 30 minutes £1.50
- 30 minutes to 1 hour £2.60
- 1 hour to 1.5 hours £3.60
- 1.5 hours to 3 hours £4.60
- 3 hours to 24 hours £5.60

The charges apply to all visitor car parks at Russells Hall, Corbett and Guest hospitals.

Payment should be made at one of the pay machines located in the Main Reception area, Maternity entrance and

Emergency Department waiting area at Russells Hall Hospital, and in the main entrance areas at Corbett and Guest outpatient centres.

All lost tickets will be charged at the daily rate.

If you require a receipt at any time, place your ticket in the machine and press the 'receipt' button. If you require assistance at any time press the help button.

A limited amount of free parking is available for patients attending treatment in the Oncology (C4) and Renal departments three times a week or more for an extended period. Cards should be returned for the period of recovery between treatments to enable accessibility to as many patients as possible. These parking cards are issued following the completion of a request form by the ward, and payment of a refundable deposit of £20 to the General Office who will issue the card, subject to availability. Cards should be returned to the General Office for refund of deposit.

Save money on parking with a value card.

Value cards are available to visitors who have relatives and friends in hospital. They are available at a fixed seven day fee of £15 plus a £20 refundable deposit. Value cards give you unlimited parking on the visitor car park for seven consecutive days, starting on the day of purchase, but do not guarantee you a space. Cards may be issued for longer than a week in exceptional circumstances and will be charged at £15 per week. If you purchase a card for three weeks, for example, you pay £65. This is 3x £15 plus the £20 refundable deposit. If you buy a card for three weeks but return it after two weeks, you will receive your full £20 deposit plus a full refund for the unused complete third week. If you buy a card for three weeks but only use it for two and a half weeks, you will receive your £20 deposit back but no refund for the unused days. To purchase a value card, ask a member of staff on the ward or department you are visiting for more information.

**Please be aware that value cards are subsidised by the Trust and there is only a limited number of these available.**

Parking charges apply to all patients and visitors, including those with blue disabled parking permits.

Please note that the Trust operates a fixed penalty scheme to ensure the safe and continued operation of the hospital sites.

In order to avoid any problems, penalties will be applied to all vehicles, including blue badge holders, who park vehicles:

- On or in a red lined area
- On a pavement or pedestrian walkway
- In disabled bays when not displaying the required disabled blue badge
- Preventing access for emergency vehicles, emergency exits, deliveries and other vehicles
- In drop-off spaces for longer than the stated time
- On grass verges or soft landscaped areas

Fixed penalties require the driver of the vehicle to pay a £70 charge (reduced to £40 if paid within 14 days) and are enforced by the Security Department.