

CHANGES ON THE CARDS FOR EAST HERTS CAR PARKS



In October, East Herts Council will introduce new pay and display machines in all its car parks – enabling local people to be among the first in the UK to take full advantage of their innovative features.

The key benefit of the new machines is that people can pay by credit or debit card including contactless cards and, of course, cash. They can even use Apple Pay or Android.

Another benefit is that card users can pay for their stay when they're ready to leave. Whether visiting for business or pleasure, people can spend as much time as they need in town, without worrying about getting a parking ticket for overstaying. Motorists will need to remember their car registration number, as it has to be entered into the machine on arrival.

Smartcards

Smartcard holders will no longer be able to use their cards once the new machines have been introduced. No Smartcards will be sold after September 1, nor will existing cards be topped up. Between October 1 and November 30, holders can obtain a refund on the unused element of their Smartcard by completing an application form available on the council's website or pick one up from their offices in Hertford or Bishop's Stortford. This should be returned to the council along with the card.

Gary Jones, executive member for economic development, said: "We're delighted to be only the second local authority in the country to have ordered these new machines.

"For the first time, users of our car parks will enjoy all the benefits of paying on exit without the expense and impracticality of barriers. Almost everyone has had the experience of having to rush a meeting, a meal or shopping because their parking time was running out.

"Once the new machines are installed, this will be a thing of the past."