

Appendix B – Scrutiny Referral Letter

To: Councillor Lucy Stephenson, Chair of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Cc: Councillor Christine Wise, Portfolio Holder for Transport, Environment and Communities

From: Oakham Town Council

Date: [Insert Date]

Subject: Request for Scrutiny Review – Implementation of Increased Off-Street Parking Charges (Effective 2 March 2026)

Dear Councillor Stephenson,

Oakham Town Council formally requests that the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Committee undertakes a review of Rutland County Council's decision to implement increased off-street parking charges across Oakham and Uppingham, which came into effect on 2 March 2026.

The Council has received substantial representations from local traders, businesses, and residents expressing concern about the impact of the revised tariffs. A petition is being gathered, accompanied by a collective letter of objection. The issues raised relate to economic impact, reduced town centre activity, accessibility for residents and visitors, and the alignment of the new charges with wider strategic objectives for Oakham's vitality and resilience.

While the charges are already in force, the Council considers there to be a clear basis for Scrutiny to examine the decision-making process, the adequacy of consultation, the proportionality of the increases, and the emerging effects on Oakham's economy and community life. A post-implementation review would provide transparency and ensure that the consequences of the revised tariffs are fully understood

Oakham Town Council respectfully requests that this matter is added to the Committee's work programme at the earliest opportunity. The Council would welcome the opportunity to provide evidence, including trader feedback and the petition currently being collected, and to attend any meeting at which this issue is considered.

Yours sincerely,

[Chair / Mayor of Oakham Town Council]

On behalf of Oakham Town Council