

Date/Dyddiad 1st August 2022
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Your Ref/Eich Cyf

My Ref/Fy Nyhyf HNST/ELR/MTC/cb

By email – request-879845-87a4bf58@whatdotheyknow.com

Mr Owen Bright
Swn y Don
Sutton Lane
Ogmore By Sea
CF32 0PE

Dear Mr Bright,

Thank you for your further email enquiry dated 26th July 2022 regarding blue badge access for the Rivermouth car park in Ogmore by Sea. I have been asked to respond as Emma is on annual leave.

The Council has taken the decision to introduce Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) linked to a rising bollard system on entry and exit to the Rivermouth car park due to assist with the previous and ongoing anti-social behaviour in the car park experienced by residents in the area. The system will operate as explained in the previous response dated 26th July 2022.

I would reiterate that free parking is maintained for blue badge holders, and I note that you have already applied for a free parking permit. I understand that the blue badge is held by an individual and has a bar code, however, the existing pay and display system in use at the car park facility which has been incorporated as part of the payment facility for the ANPR system cannot currently scan the bar code. Should the machines be updated in the future, or a revised payment facility introduced then a scanning facility will be considered.

In the meantime, the council can only register one vehicle which should be the primary vehicle that the blue badge holder is likely to use when accessing the car park facility. It is just not feasible or practical for the council to register more than one vehicle for blue badge holders as this would be impossible to manage and could impact the benefits of the ANPR system. As explained, a blue badge holder who is not a in pre-registered vehicle for whatever reason can still exit the car park free of charge by using the intercom system.

The above process has been appropriately and fully considered to ensure that blue badge holders are not disadvantaged or discriminated against in using the car park facility whilst ensuring appropriate ANPR and barrier controls are able to be implemented within budget available to adequately manage access and deter anti-social behaviours impacting the local community. I would clarify that

the council is not denying legitimate access to the car park facility to any user and specifically not blue badge holders.

I hope that the above now clarifies the council's position regarding the new access arrangements and their use by blue badge holders.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Clogg', with a horizontal line underneath the first part of the name.

Michael Clogg
Operational Manager, Engineering