

Freedom of Information – Response –28002

I am writing to request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding council-operated town centre car parks.

This information is being collected as part of research into the potential cost of a national, ring-fenced government grant to local authorities in England to enable councils to provide free parking in town centres. The purpose of the research is to understand the potential financial impact on councils and the scale of funding that would be required, with the wider objective of supporting town centre footfall and economic growth.

For the purposes of this request, please use the Council's own definition or designation of a "town centre" rather than undertaking any new analysis to determine whether a car park falls within a town centre.

For each of the financial years 2024/25 and 2025/26, please provide:

- 1. The total income from parking charges received from council-owned or council-operated off-street car parks located within town centres.*
- 2. The direct operating expenditure associated with those car parks.*
- 3. The resulting net income/surplus or deficit, if this is already calculated by the Council.*
- 4. The number of car parks and total number of parking spaces covered by the figures above, where this information is readily available.*
- 5. The names of the car parks included within the figures, so that we can understand how the Council has interpreted "town centre".*

Please exclude income from Penalty Charge Notices or other parking enforcement activity.

We are writing to advise you that, following a search of our paper and electronic records, it has been established that the information you requested is not held by Suffolk County Council.

If you have not already done so, then you may wish to write to the Borough and District Councils of Suffolk:

- *Babergh Mid Suffolk District Council*

[Freedom of Information - Babergh District Council - babergh.gov.uk / midsuffolk.gov.uk](https://www.babergh.gov.uk/)

- *East Suffolk*

[FOI and EIR making a request | East Suffolk Council](#)

- *West Suffolk*

Freedom of information

- Ipswich Borough Council

[Freedom Of Information \(FOI\) | ipswich.gov.uk](https://www.ipswich.gov.uk)