

Consultation with businesses on the introduction of car parking charges in the town centres.

Process

Letters were hand delivered to all business in the town centres of Arnold, Mapperley Top, Carlton Hill and Carlton Square. Business that are located on the 'edge of town' were also handed letters. Businesses like the Friar Tuck Pub in Arnold, Pidcock's Motorcycles & Jet Petrol Station at Mapperley were also delivered letters to give them the opportunity to comment and so they are aware of future developments in their locality.

Each letter had a questionnaire and 'freepost' envelope stapled to it and was handed to a member of staff at every business if they were open at the time. If the business was closed at the time like takeaways, restaurants that focus more on the evening economy they were posted through the letterbox. If the premises were empty or vacant a letter was still posted through so that the landlord, future tenant or managing agent has the opportunity to participate and is kept fully informed.

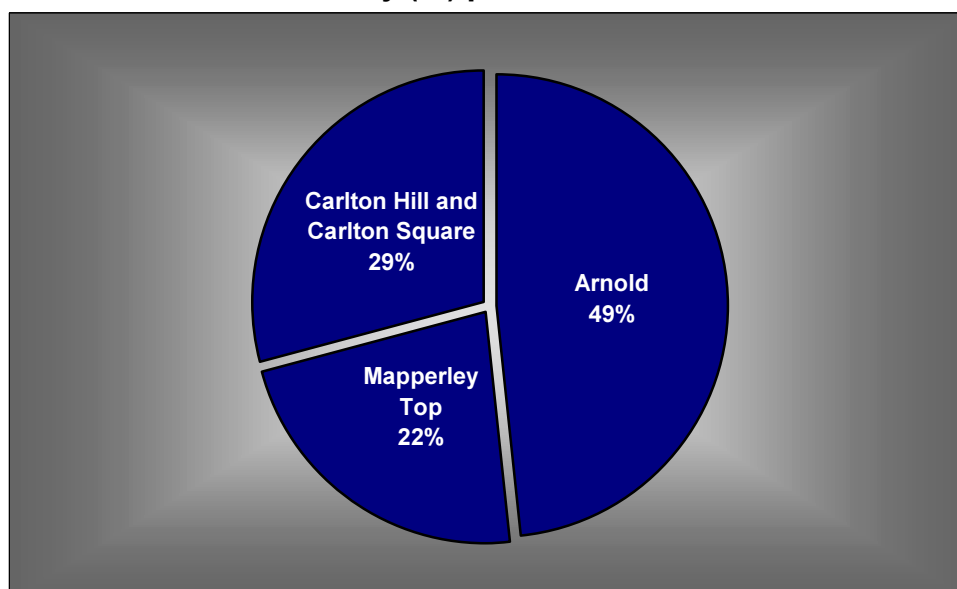
All letters were not put in closed envelopes so that they could identify immediately who the letter was from and its content, this was to encourage greater completion and return of the questionnaire. Due to us not having the postal names and addresses of every business in or around the town centres we had to deliver them all by hand.

All letters were delivered during normal retail business hours of 9.00am – 5.30pm on Thursday 12th in Arnold and Friday 13th January 2006 in Mapperley and Carlton by Mark Armstrong, Town Centres Manager and Dale Griffin, Community Projects Officer.

The following are the numbers of letters delivered to each of the town centres.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| Arnold | 224 |
| Mapperley Top | 104 |
| Carlton Hill and Carlton Square | <u>135</u> |
| TOTAL | <u>463</u> |

Delivery (%) per town centre

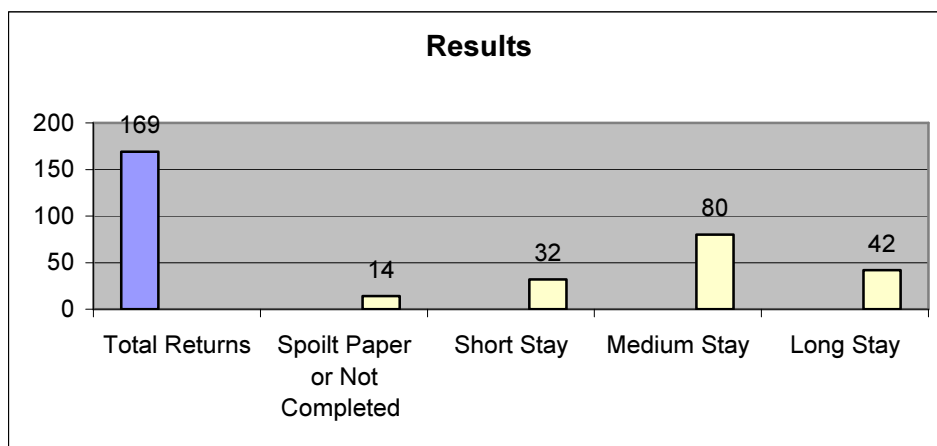


Results

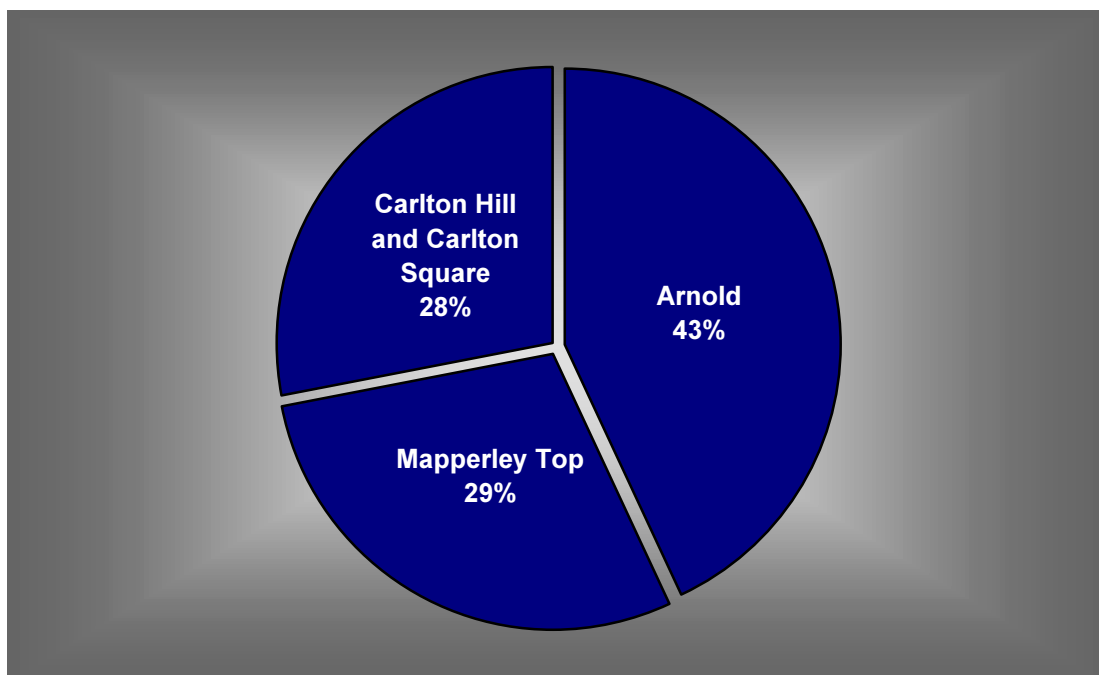
The closing date for the completion and return of the reply slip was 3 February 2006, although we accepted late entries the following Monday due to weekend post.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|
| Total Returns | 168 | 36 % |
| Spoilt Paper or Not Completed | 14 | 8 % |
| Short Stay | 32 | 19 % |
| Medium Stay | 80 | 48 % |
| Long stay | 42 | 25 % |

(Each % above had been rounded to the nearest whole number)



Returns (%) per town centre



Comparables between each town centre

As part of the consultation we asked each business to identify which town centre they were based to be able to compare any differences in the preferred options between each of the locations.

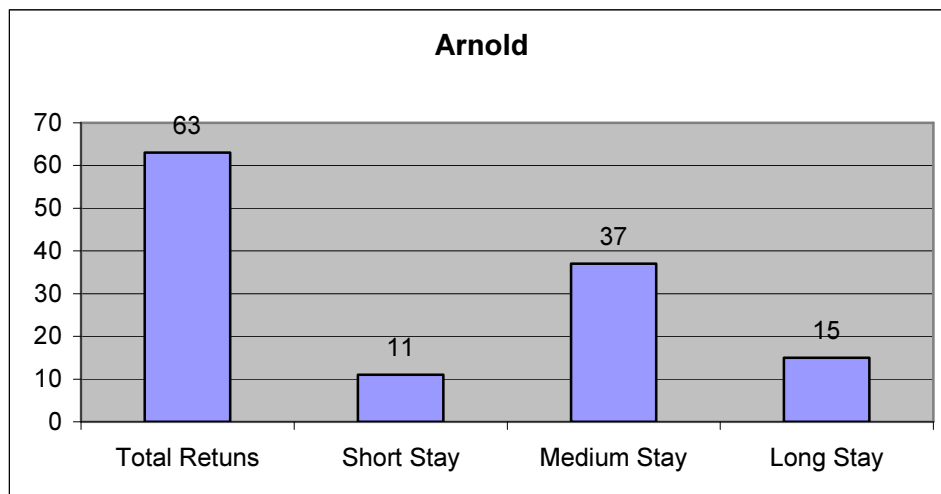
The results are listed below.

| | <i>Number completed</i> | <i>%</i> |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| None or All Boxes Completed (Spoilt) | 8 | 5 % of total returns |

Arnold

| | <i>Number completed</i> | <i>%</i> |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Returns | 63 | 38 % of total returns |
| Short Stay | 11 | 18 % |
| Medium Stay | 37 | 58 % |
| Long Stay | 15 | 24 % |

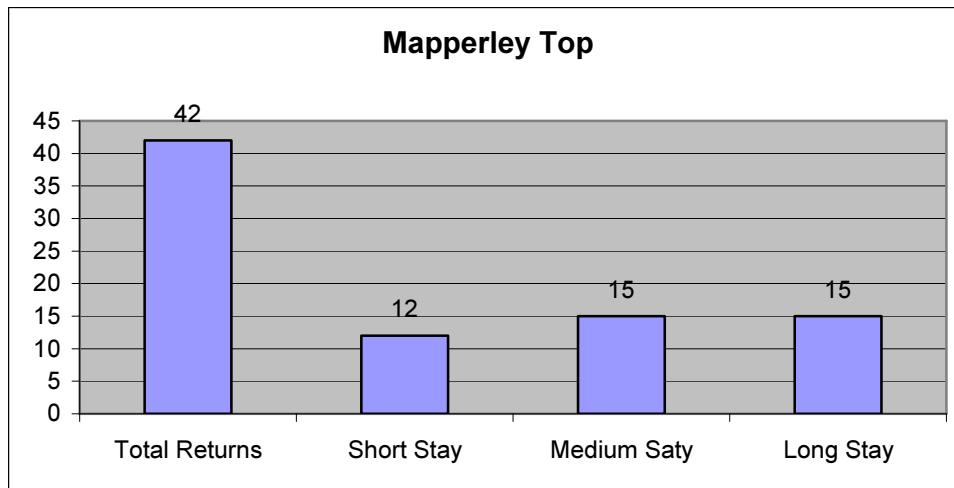
(Each % above had been rounded to the nearest whole number)



Mapperley Top

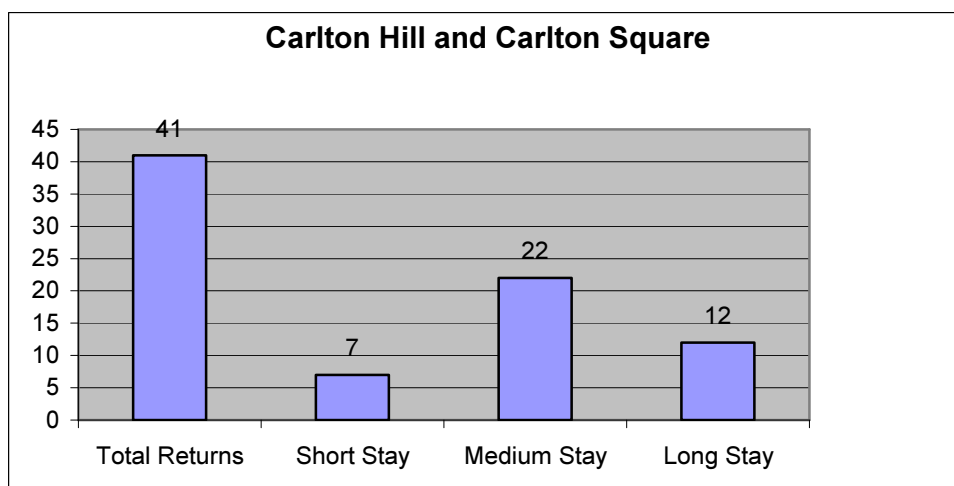
| | <i>Number completed</i> | <i>%</i> |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total Returns | 42 | 25 % of total returns |
| Short Stay | 12 | 28 % |
| Medium Stay | 15 | 36 % |
| Long Stay | 15 | 36 % |

(Each % above had been rounded to the nearest whole number)

**Carlton Hill and Carlton Square**

| | <i>Number completed</i> | <i>%</i> |
|---------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Total returns | 41 | 24 % of total returns |
| Short Stay | 7 | 17 % |
| Medium Stay | 22 | 54 % |
| Long Stay | 12 | 29 % |

(Each % above had been rounded to the nearest whole number)



Conclusion

We have achieved a very high return rate of 36% for the consultation. The percentage of returns is proportionate to those sent out. The successful rate of return can in part be attributed to the methods used by hand delivering all of the letters without envelopes. We have achieved a clear favoured option of 'Medium Stay', *low charge up to 4 hours with a sharp increase for each additional hour* across all town centres where charging is being introduced.

Mark Armstrong
TOWN CENTRES MANAGER

17 February 2006

Cabinet Office

Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park
Arnold, Nottingham NG5 6LU

FAO – Business Manager
Arnold, Mapperley and Carlton Town Centres
Nottingham

(By Hand)

| | |
|-------------|-----------------|
| Direct Line | (0115) 901 3845 |
| Switchboard | (0115) 901 3901 |
| Extension | 3834 |
| Fax | (0115) 901 3758 |
| Minicom | (0115) 901 3935 |
| Email | |
| Our Ref | |
| Your Ref | |

21 May 2013

Dear Business Manager

Car Park Charges – Help us decide charging levels

You may already be aware that charging for the Borough Council's shoppers' car parks in Arnold, Mapperley and Carlton Town Centres is due to be introduced from January 2007.

We have listened to all of your views and concerns expressed during last year's round of consultation and are therefore putting the following arrangements in place:

- Free parking for people with disabilities, in disabled bays only.
- No charges on Sundays and Bank Holidays.
- No charges in the evenings.
- An increase in the number of parking permits available for purchase from 5% to 10% of spaces available.
- Parking permits to be introduced across the town centres of Arnold, Mapperley and Carlton.
- Charging only to apply Monday to Saturday 8am to 6pm.
- 'Short Stay' charges set low at your request:

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|---|-----|
| § | Up to 1 hour stay | - | 20p |
| § | Up to 2 hours stay | - | 50p |

As a member of the business community we now need your help on how to charge for stays over 2 hours.

This is your chance to influence the level of charging. Please tick your preferred option on the enclosed reply slip and return it to us in the FREEPOST envelope **by 3 February 2006** so that we can take your views into account. Thank you in advance for taking the time to let us know what you think. The options are:

- **Short Stay** - Low charge for the first two hours' stay - followed by sharp increase.

- **Medium Stay** - Low charge for the first four hours' stay - followed by sharp increase.
- **Long Stay** - All day gradual increase in charges after the first two hours.

Each option has differing results and implications for how long shoppers will stay in the town centre. We hope we can achieve the right balance and protect and develop the vitality of the economy of our town centres, while attracting visitors.

Further Information

As you know, the Council has managed to provide free car parks in the Borough's main shopping areas for many years, and these support local facilities including shops, leisure facilities and health centres.

Please be assured that the decision to charge for car parks has therefore not been taken lightly, and came about because the costs to the Council were great. No government funding is received for this purpose, as the Council is expected to cover the cost of operating its car parks itself.

Changes to On-Street Parking Enforcement

The Council's Cabinet agreed the implementation date for charging at its meeting last August, (following consultation in summer 2004). The date coincides with changes to on-street parking enforcement, which from that date will no longer be the responsibility of the police, but is proposed to be jointly managed in partnership by Gedling Borough and Nottinghamshire County Councils.

List of Town Centre Car Parks Where Charging will Apply

Off-street charges will cover car parks in the following car parks:


Arnold: Blatherwicks Yard; Hallams Lane; St Albans Road; Wood Street; High Street (Arnold Leisure Centre); High Street (Co-op)

Carlton: Carlton Square; Frederick Avenue; Standhill Road

Mapperley: Bonington Road; Haywood Road North; Haywood Road South

Once again, thank you for taking part in this important survey of your views

Yours sincerely



Councillor Richard Nicholson
Portfolio Holder for Direct Services & Property

Car Park Charging Consultation

Arnold, Mapperley and Carlton Town Centres

In which town centre is your business located?

Arnold

Mapperley

Carlton

Please choose **ONE** of the following preferred options by ticking the appropriate box.

Short Stay

Low Charge up to 2 hours with sharp increase for each additional hour.

Medium Stay

Low charge up to 4 hours with a sharp increase for each additional hour.

Long Stay

Stepped increase each hour over the full day, after the first 2 hours.

Thank you for your help.

Please return this reply slip by **3 February 2006** – no need for a stamp - to:

Town Centres Manager
Cabinet Office
FREEPOST (MID 17507)
Arnot Hill Park
Arnold
Nottingham
NG5 6BU

Should you have any further enquiries please telephone John Evens, Technical Services Manager on 0115 901 3767 or email: john.evens@gedling.gov.uk