

Skegness Car Park Survey

August 2018

Introduction

The Planning Policy and Conservation Department have periodically carried out town centre car parking surveys in the town of Skegness since 1995, the last undertaken in 2011. The 2011 survey concluded that parking provisions were sufficient and adequate.

Objectives

The surveys monitor parking, which consists of public, private and on-street locations, including the Foreshore locations to provide a broader picture of the used capacity of town centre parking, with the objectives:-

- To gauge a better idea of shopping patterns within Skegness.
- To assist in the determination of planning applications within the town centre.
- To see if there are enough car parking spaces to deal comfortably with demand.
- To provide information to help with the review of town centre policies and land use proposals for emerging planning policy.
- To provide relevant foreshore data for the Foreshore Master Plan in Skegness.

Changes from previous survey

It was recommended on the 2011 car park survey to include Scarborough Avenue as a new on-street location, therefore it has been added to this year's routes, totalling an extra 110 available capacity.

Due to the development of the Premier Inn Hotel on Pierside North car park the available capacity is now reduced to 115 spaces.

The Survey

As in previous years, the surveys were carried out on 2 days of the week – Tuesday 7th August to represent a standard weekday and Saturday 11th August to represent a peak shopping day as, unlike Louth, Skegness does not have a market day when you would expect a higher than average number of shoppers. Both surveys were within the school holiday season, the period of optimum demand for parking spaces in the holiday resort of Skegness.

Surveys were carried out every hour, the first survey on Tuesday began at 9.30am, and the final survey began at 3.30pm. Due to staff shortage the car park statistics on Saturday were taken from 10.30am until the last count at 2.30pm.

The town centre was split into 4 'routes' so that all parking provision could be surveyed every hour. The areas of parking surveyed on each of the routes are shown on Map 1.

ANALYSIS OF RESULTS.

AMOUNT OF CAR PARKING SPACE AVAILABLE.

<u>Type of Car Parking</u>	<u>Overall Capacity</u>	<u>% Capacity of Overall Total</u>
Public Car Parking	1751	40%
Foreshore Car Parking	2101	47%
On-street Parking	593	13%
Total	4445	100%

This is a decrease in the number of parking spaces when compared to the previous survey carried out in 2011, when there were 4615 spaces available in total, ie. A decrease of 170 spaces. This is notably due to the loss of spaces at the Pierside car park, which is the site of the new Premier Inn Hotel, currently under construction. This site was reduced from 505 spaces to 115. The overall capacity also takes into account the new on street location at Scarborough Avenue, which added 110 spaces. It may also be partly due to the re-estimation of parking spaces, particularly on-street spaces which are often difficult to judge, and the re-counting of public car parks which may have had parking bays re-laid out since the last survey.

Tuesday 7th August 2018

Tuesdays weather was clear skies and sunny, with an average temperature of 25c. There were no events during the day, representing a typical midweek Tuesday in the summer.

Public Car Parking (Not including the Foreshore)

The overall average use for the public car parks on the Tuesday was 59%. This is a decrease on level of use on the previous survey conducted in 2011 – 68%. The peak period was at 12:30pm when 76% of spaces were used leaving a total of 419 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. There was a notably lower usage of car parking facilities earlier in the day (43% at 9:30am and 52% at 10:30am). Ida Road car park was notably lower in level of usage with an average of just 13% over the entire day. Scarborough Avenue was the only car park to achieve an overall average use of 90% or more.

Foreshore Car Parking

The overall average use for the foreshore parks on the Tuesday was 57%. This is an increase on level of use on the previous survey conducted in 2011 – 23%. The peak period was at 2:30pm when 79% of spaces were used leaving a total

of 447 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. Similarly to public car parks, there was a notably lower usage of car parking facilities earlier in the day (12% at 9:30am, 26% at 10:30am and 51% at 11:30am). North End car park was notably lower in level of usage with an average of just 30% over the entire day. Scarborough Esplanade was the only car park to achieve an overall average use of 90% or more.

On Street Parking

The overall average use for the on street parking locations on the Tuesday was 78%. This is a decrease on level of use from the previous survey conducted in 2011 – 84%. On Tuesday the peak period was at 11:30am when 81% of spaces were used leaving a total of 113 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. Scarborough Avenue, Rutland Road, South Parade, Ida Road and Roman Bank all recorded at over 90% full during the day. Roman Bank reached full capacity at 14:30. Scarborough Avenue was the most consistently close to capacity throughout the day, with an average used capacity of 90%.

Disabled and Parent and Child Bays

Disabled bays were used regularly throughout the day. Morrisons, Tesco and Festival car park were, at times, full to capacity. Similarly the Arcadia, Hildreds, Scarborough Esplanade and Lidl car parks all had disabled bays in use with only a small amount of spaces left to occupy.

Similar can be said about Parent and Child Bays. These are only available in Tesco, Lidl and Morrison's car parks and were popular and, at times, became full to capacity.

Motorbikes and Cycles

There were some Motorbikes and cycles recorded during the course of the day. Motorbikes are often parked in bike spaces, which there are few of, spaces of the size to fit cars or in spaces that are not easily accessible by cars. Festival Car park has allocated motorbike spaces and recorded the highest amount of Motorbike used capacity on the Tuesday survey.

Other Observations

Embassy car park has a permit section, this was not included in the recorded data but it is important to highlight that the permit area was close to capacity throughout the day.

Officers reported heavy use of North Parade as an on street location. This location is not included in the current survey but it is important to note the usage for inclusion in future surveys.

Summary of the day

Over the entire day an average of 59% of public parking spaces, 59% of foreshore parking spaces and 78% of on-street parking spaces were utilised, giving an overall average of 65% used capacity of all available parking spaces.

Saturday 11th August 2018

The weather on Saturday was warm for most of the morning and afternoon. Around midday it became overcast but remained at a comfortable temperature for the remainder of the day.

Due to staff shortage the car park statistics were taken from 10:30am until the last count at 14:30. Although previous surveys had a wider time range, this was the best possible option to ensure a variation of data to draw conclusions on.

Public Car Parking (Not Including the Foreshore)

The overall average use for the public car parks on the Saturday was 73%. Using the same shortened time period for the survey, this is an increase on the recorded level of use in the 2011 survey, which averaged 66%. The peak period was at 1:30pm when 97% of spaces were used leaving a total of 47 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. Scarborough Avenue was the only car park to achieve an overall average use of 90% or more.

Foreshore Car Parking

The overall average use for the foreshore parks on the Saturday was 58%. Using the same shortened time period for the survey, this is an increase on the recorded level of use in the 2011 survey, which averaged 38%. The peak period was at 1:30pm when 77% of spaces were used leaving a total of 475 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. Similarly to public car parks, there was a notably lower usage of car parking facilities earlier in the day (28% at 10:30am, 51% at 11:30am and 66% at 12:30pm). Princess Parade car park was notably lower in level of usage with an average of just 19% over the entire day. Scarborough Esplanade, McDonalds and Pier car parks all achieved an overall average use of 90% or more.

On Street Parking

The overall average use for the on street parking locations on the Saturday was 78%. This is a decrease on level of use from the previous survey conducted in 2011 – 90%. On Saturday the peak period was at 1:30pm when 81% of spaces were used leaving a total of 115 spaces remaining until full capacity would have been achieved. Scarborough Avenue, Rutland Road, South Parade, Lumley Road and Ida Road all recorded at over 90% full during the day. Lumley Road reached full capacity at 1:30pm. Similar to the Tuesday survey, Scarborough Avenue was the most consistently close to capacity throughout the day, with an average used capacity of 94%.

Disabled and Parent and Child Bays

Disabled bays, were used regularly throughout the day. Disabled bays were very popular in Festival on Saturday, and recorded as full for the majority of the day. Morrison's and Tesco, which have the largest density of Disabled Bays, however they did not reach near capacity throughout the day. There were also notes by officers of the use of Disabled Badges along some of the roads in Skegness.

Parent and Child Bays are only available in Tesco, Lidl and Morrison's car parks and were popular and, at times, became full to capacity.

Motorbikes and Cycles

There were some Motorbikes and cycles recorded during the course of the day. Motorbikes are often parked in bike spaces, which there are few of, spaces of the size to fit cars or in spaces that are not easily accessible by cars. Festival Car park has allocated motorbike spaces and, similar to the Tuesday survey, recorded the highest amount of Motorbike used capacity on the Saturday survey.

Other Observations

Embassy car park has a permit section, this was not included in the recorded data but it is important to highlight that the permit area was close to capacity throughout the day.

As with the Tuesday survey, Officers again reported heavy use of North Parade as an on street location. A recommendation for inclusion in future surveys is required.

Summary of the day

Over the entire day an average of 73% of public parking spaces, 58% of foreshore parking spaces and 78% of on-street parking spaces were utilised, giving an overall average of 70% used capacity of all available parking spaces.

Comparison between Tuesday 7th August and Saturday 11th August

For the purposes of comparison data from Tuesday will use the same time period as Saturday, 10:30 to 14:30, to ensure the comparisons are reliable and valid.

Saturday was marginally busier, overall totals of cars were up compared to the Tuesday survey. The average total spaces used on Saturday was 2969 compared to Tuesday's 2862 used spaces.

Public car parking was busier on Saturday than Tuesday with the highest amount of cars recorded on Saturday at 1704, compared to Tuesday's 1332 cars recorded. The total spaces used on Saturday was 6404 compared to Tuesdays 5512 used capacity.

Foreshore Parking was down slightly on Saturday compared to Tuesday. There was a significant rise on Saturday that peaked at 1:30pm with 1626 used spaces, this represented 77% of the spaces available in use. This compares to Tuesdays peak at 2:30pm with 1654 used spaces, which represents 79% of spaces in use.

On street parking remained consistent on both Tuesday and Saturday with both days having an average usage of 78% capacity used during the day. This shows that on street parking, being free is very popular regardless of time of day and day of the week. The used capacity for on street parking may also be contributed by those living in the area. Many of the surveyed streets are built up residential areas and resident may be parking on the side of the road adjacent to their houses.

Information for Future Surveys

The next survey of Skegness Car Park will be undertaken in the summer of 2020. It is recommended that the routes will not include private car parks as the data has not been needed or used, as it gives no accurate representation of town centre parking. A private car park is considered to be a car park used by permit holders only. A public car park is considered one open to the public. A permit holder of a private car park is typically a person who visits the area regularly for work. Therefore this data is an unreliable source when representing town centre parking and it is unlikely to have any influence on shopping patterns within the town.

An additional carpark is being developed by East Lindsey at the rear of the Coach Park on Richmond Drive. It is recommended to include this as a new public car park location on the next survey.

It is also suggested that North Parade is considered an On Street location as Officers reported that cars park on the street throughout the day.

Table 1

		Tuesday Peak Usage					
	09:30	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30	15:30
Public	747	908	1139	1332	1071	1062	945
Foreshore	253	542	1079	1575	1647	1654	1585
On Street	487	447	480	455	479	440	454
Total	1487	1897	2698	3362	3197	3156	2984

Graph 1

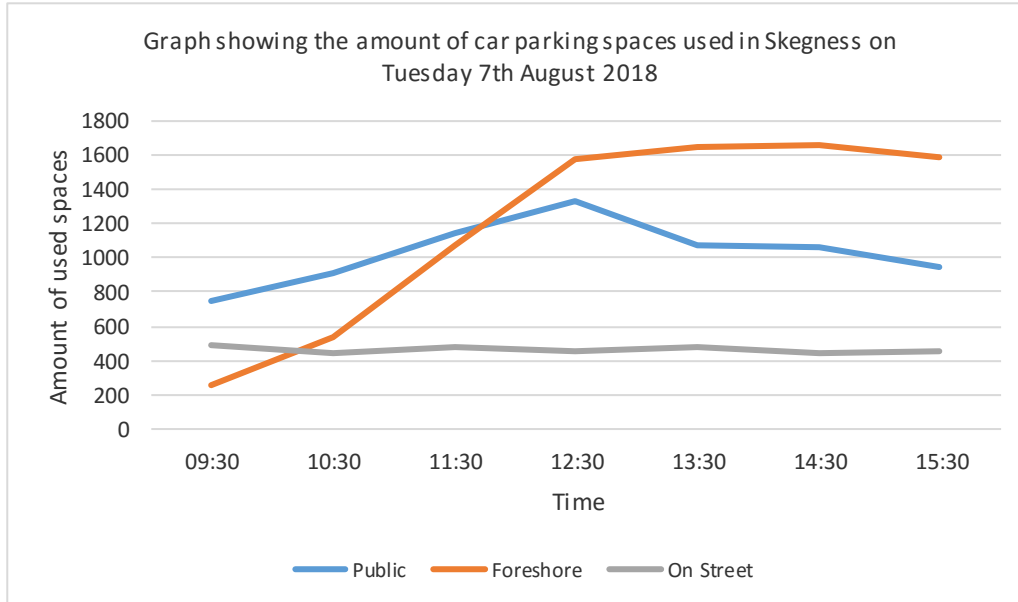


Table 2

		Tuesday Peak Usage - Percentage					
	09:30	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30	15:30
Public	43%	52%	65%	76%	61%	61%	54%
Foreshore	12%	26%	51%	75%	78%	79%	75%
On Street	82%	75%	81%	77%	81%	74%	77%
Total	46%	51%	66%	76%	74%	71%	69%

Graph 2

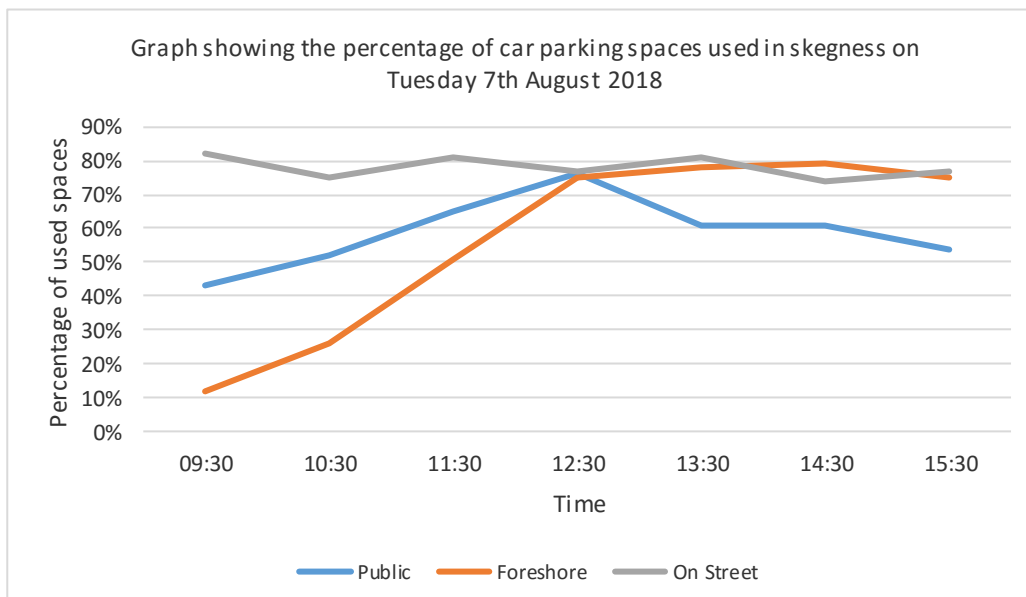


Table 3

	Saturday Peak Usage				
	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30
Public	995	1171	1295	1704	1239
Foreshore	582	1068	1381	1626	1481
On Street	445	444	466	478	469
Total	2022	2683	3142	3808	3189

Graph 3

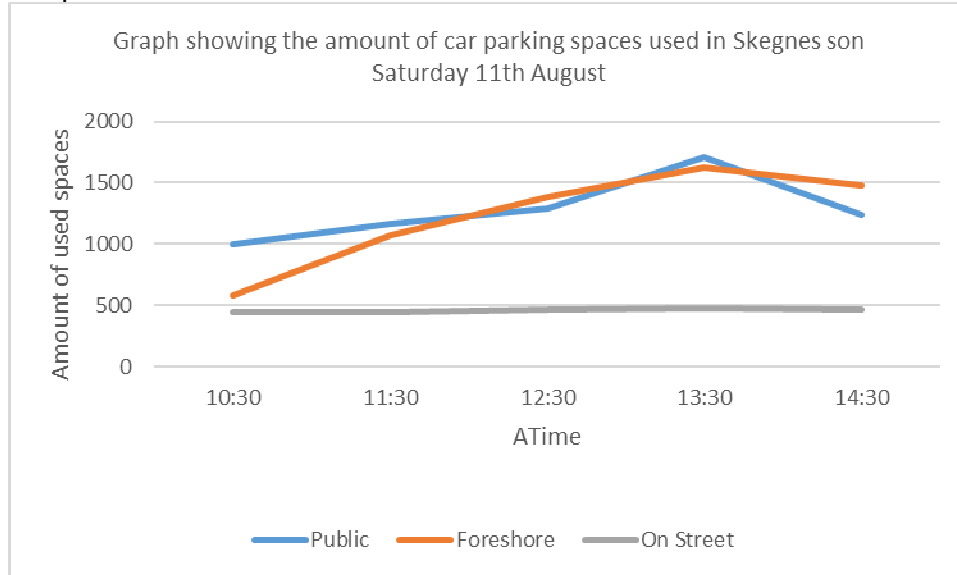


Table 4

	Saturday Peak Usage - Percentage				
	10:30	11:30	12:30	13:30	14:30
Public	57%	67%	74%	97%	71%
Foreshore	28%	51%	66%	77%	70%
On Street	75%	75%	79%	81%	79%
Total	53%	64%	73%	85%	73%

Graph 4

