

Wendy

I am writing to you about the above subject from two angles

1. as a user of the hospital and 2. as a local resident.

1. I can understand that the hospital has to try to stop people from parking in the car park that are not using the hospital facilities and only using it as a free form of parking. But why should everyone else suffer. As a patient attending the hospital you are never sure how long any one appointment is going to take. Last year for example I had to go for a mammogram. I was initially kept waiting over 45 mins to see the consultant and then was sent for a mammogram which I again waited for. I then had to go for an ultrasound and when that was all finished had to go back and wait to see the consultant, who informed me that it was more than likely I had breast cancer. Now that took over 4 hours. As you can imagine it was a very upsetting time and if I had gone out to the car park to find a parking ticket I think that would have put so much more stress on my situation that I'm not sure I would have coped. No-one wants to come out of a stressful hospital visit to find a parking ticket. I'm not sure how people are going to have to cope with pleading their case not to pay the fine which some faceless company are going to charge you. And how do you fight that. Are all patients being given info as to how to do this.

Who is going to issue an 'Exceptions form' if they know you are going to be more than 4 hours. Is it going to be the nurses....surely they have more urgent things to be getting on with than having to administer a parking system. As many staff will be coming into work at the same time...does that mean they will all be leaving at the same time to move their cars and try to find other parking outside the hospital grounds therefore leaving vulnerable people waiting in beds in corridors if it is porters, cold meals if it is catering, patients medication arriving late or even people having procedures carried out. Who will be caring for them as the staff try to find parking. I notice from a letter to you from R Calderwood that and I quote 'We will continue to look for opportunities to maximise the availability of car parking spaces on the RAH campus' I think they are not looking into it enough. One way they could improve the parking and probably get about 50 more spaces is to make the car park a one way system...up one lane and down the next. They could then move the parking rows closer together. If it was a commercial venture they would do that to maximise the revenue. Also if you look at the footprint of the hospital there are other area that are laid to grass that could be turned into extra parking. Especially over at the nurses accommodation or even if they have to..fill in the pond at the back and use that as parking. Staff parking could be restricted to the back of the hospital and the side with an barrier entry system. However I know from speaking to staff at the hospital they do not like parking at the back as it is not well lit. That is something the hospital have to do to make sure their staff are safe. They could purchase the old tennis grounds next the cricket park and use that for staff parking. So many ideas. I don't see how they can say they are doing everything possible.

I could go on about it but as one consultant said ... What is it going to take to make them understand, a child getting knocked down due to all the cars parking on the street, a death in the hospital as a member of staff rushes out to move their vehicle. They put on a road show last week and basically they were telling staff how to use public transport. I ask you. Do they think the staff are children. If they want them to cycle in are they going to provide enough shower and changing facilities for all the staff that will be coming into work at the same time.

2. As a local resident I fear for the safety of the young and the elderly as there will be so many cars parked in the local area and the council have put double yellow lines all over the place. All this extra parking may lead to emergency vehicle not being able to get through. As I'm sure you know a lot of the pavements in the Corsebar area are owned by the householders and not the council. What recourse will the home owners have when everyone parks on their pavements and damages private property. Is the hospital going to compensate them. Is the council going to adopt them.

The moral at the hospital is at an all time low. How can that be good for anyone's health. There is also rumour that you have been excluded from some of the meetings.....how can this happen.

Please please please do not let Greater Glasgow & Clyde implement this policy. The land was gifted and should not be used for profit.

Sorry for rambling on but I just felt it had to be said. Maybe you should petition the local residents whom the hospital seems to have forgotten.

Kind regards...