



The Scottish Parliament
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba



Councillor Tony Buchanan
Leader, East Renfrewshire Council
Ward 2, Newton Mearns North and Neilston
East Renfrewshire Council HQ
Eastwood Park
Rouken Glen Road
Giffnock
G46 6UG

25th February 2019

Dear Councillor Buchanan,

Scottish Conservative opposition to The Car Park Tax in East Renfrewshire

As you will be aware, the Scottish Government budget settlement for the 2019/20 financial year, which was approved at Holyrood last week commits to giving councils the power to introduce a workplace parking levy.

If introduced in East Renfrewshire or any other local authority in Scotland, the workplace parking levy could result in workers having to pay hundreds of pounds just to park at their place of employment.

Should employers choose to pass the costs of a council putting in place a workplace parking levy onto their staff, the tax would also be subject to VAT and employees could be faced with a charge of £500 just for a parking space at work.

The car park tax would impact upon not just higher earners but individuals such as apprentices, low paid workers, and teachers too.

Trade unions have announced their opposition to the levy. Businesses are warning against the potential dangers of the car park tax being implemented. Shift workers who begin work in the early hours of the morning and who have no other option but to drive their car to work are rightly furious.

With the local authority getting ready to set its own budget for the forthcoming financial year this Thursday, we call on you as leader of the SNP-Labour Coalition to unequivocally rule out implementing this unwanted proposal in East Renfrewshire for the remainder of the current council term up to the next Local Government Elections in 2022.

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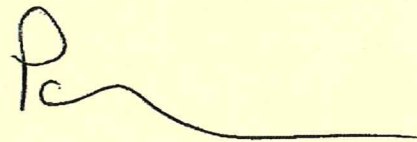
East Renfrewshire Conservative Councillors will fight strongly against any attempt from the current administration to introduce a car park tax and they will have our full support in doing so.

We sincerely hope you will agree with us that there should be no consideration given to implementing the car park tax in East Renfrewshire and that the administration you lead will give it's full commitment to opposing the workplace parking levy.

Kind Regards,



Jackson Carlaw **MSP**
Member for Eastwood



Paul Masterton **MP**
Member for East Renfrewshire