

# Transport Xtra

**22 November 2019**

Nottingham's workplace parking levy (WPL) has raised £60.8m net revenue for transport improvements in its first seven years.

Nottingham City Council implemented the levy on 1 April 2012 and remains the only authority in the country to have done so.

The levy applies to employers providing 11 or more liable spaces. It began at £288 per space and this year is £415.

Gross income was £7.76m in 2012/13, £8.5m in 2013/14, and then: £9.1m (2014/15); £9.4m (2015/16); £9.4m (2016/17); £9.7m (2017/18); and £10.1m (2018/19).

Costs in the first year were £362,000 and reached £491,000 in 2017/18 but fell to £376,000 last year.

Nigel Hallam, workplace parking levy service manager, told councillors: "The operational costs of running the WPL are low, with the average annual operating costs just 4.71 per cent of gross income. This compares very favourably when compared with the London congestion charge, which has an operating cost of around 20 per cent."

Hallam said 100 per cent compliance was achieved in the first year, no penalty charge notices had ever been issued, and less than £10,000 of bad debt had been written off.

The levy had allowed the council to lever-in "hundreds of millions of pounds of external funding for projects such as NET phase two [tramline extensions], the Hub project (redevelopment of Nottingham train station) and the continued support to the Link bus network".

Noting that other councils were now studying the levy, Hallam said: "Council staff and politicians are hosting multiple meetings with interested parties, and the WPL team has secured its first commercial contract through the provision of consultancy services to Leicester City Council to deliver a route map for the development, delivery and implementation of a WPL scheme in that city."