

What is the National Parking Platform?

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EAST ENTRANCE

The National Parking Platform (NPP) is a publicly-owned 'parking hub' funded by the Department for Transport (DfT). It is designed to help local authorities and private companies simplify the exchange of data and digital payments, offering a transformative new approach to delivering parking and mobility services.

By signing up for the NPP, operators future-proof their towns and cities by making better data-driven decisions on traffic management and parking policies. This enables connected transport initiatives and additional services, such as electric vehicle (EV) charging.



The NPP is currently being piloted by several local authorities including Manchester, Oxfordshire, Peterborough, Coventry, and Cheshire West and Chester.

The pilot platform has proved successful, with at least 10 more councils expected to join in 2024. As a result, the government is funding a system upgrade to move from the trial phase to a nationwide roll-out, which will potentially host over 300 local authorities and many more private parking operators. A full NPP service is expected to go live in autumn 2024.



Benefits of the Open Market

For parking operators

- Provide more choice for drivers: happier motorists, fewer complaints
- Save money through increased cashless adoption
- Create fair competition with lower barriers to entry for new providers
- Remove complex and costly procurement processes
- Increase resilience by having multiple suppliers to rely on
- Enhanced data to support informed decisions

For motorists

- Can choose their preferred app for parking, wherever they are
- No need to download multiple apps
- Improved customer experience as additional services are offered
- Better connected to mobility services

For service providers

- Gain focus to provide value for motorists
- Deliver innovation driven by competition
- Invest in better apps and smarter ways to pay
- Create services that appeal to different groups of people
- Work with simpler, more sustainable business models
- Easier for new providers to enter the market

The operating model

The NPP allows multiple service providers to operate alongside each other in an Open Market. It lowers management and procurement costs, maximises resilience and removes the current tender-based processes for parking operators. While creating a nationwide infrastructure which delivers additional value, innovation and, more importantly, choice to motorists.

The Open Market for parking is popular in the Nordics, the Netherlands and Germany. When the NPP rolls out nationally in autumn 2024, the UK will join the many European countries already benefiting from an Open Market model.

1. Service providers must meet and provide sufficient service and regulatory standards, ensuring effective and secure payment services.
2. The responsibility for collecting digital payments must sit with service providers, who can provide additional services, such as EV charging in the future.
3. Service providers should set their own fees and communicate with transparency, so motorists can choose with confidence.
4. The platform must continue to be maintained and developed with sustainable funding delivered by the industry and government working together.

Join the NPP

To find out how your area can benefit, contact Chris Head, Head of Business Development: chris.head@ringgo.co.uk

