

<b>Committee(s):</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Markets	11 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>Subject:</b> Smithfield Market – Car Park Utilisation February 2020 – July 2020	<b>Public</b>
<b>Report of:</b> Director of Markets & Consumer Protection	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Mark Sherlock, Superintendent, Smithfield Market	

### Summary

This report updates Members about the utilisation of Smithfield Market Car Park for the 6 month period from February 2020 to July 2020. This includes the impact of Covid-19 and at short notice, the re-introduction and increase of the congestion charge fee, widening of hours and seven day a week extension by Transport for London. It also reports on the successful trial implementation of Just Park, a third-party concierge parking service brought in to increase revenue from alternative sources.

### Recommendation(s)

Members are invited to note the contents of this report.

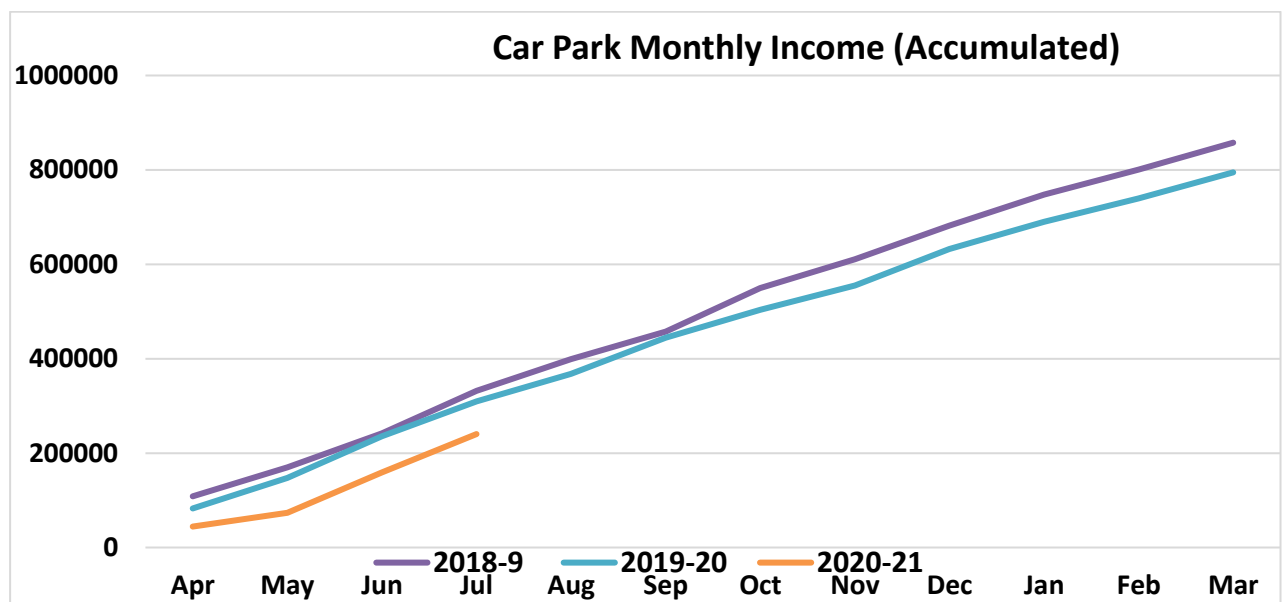
### Main Report

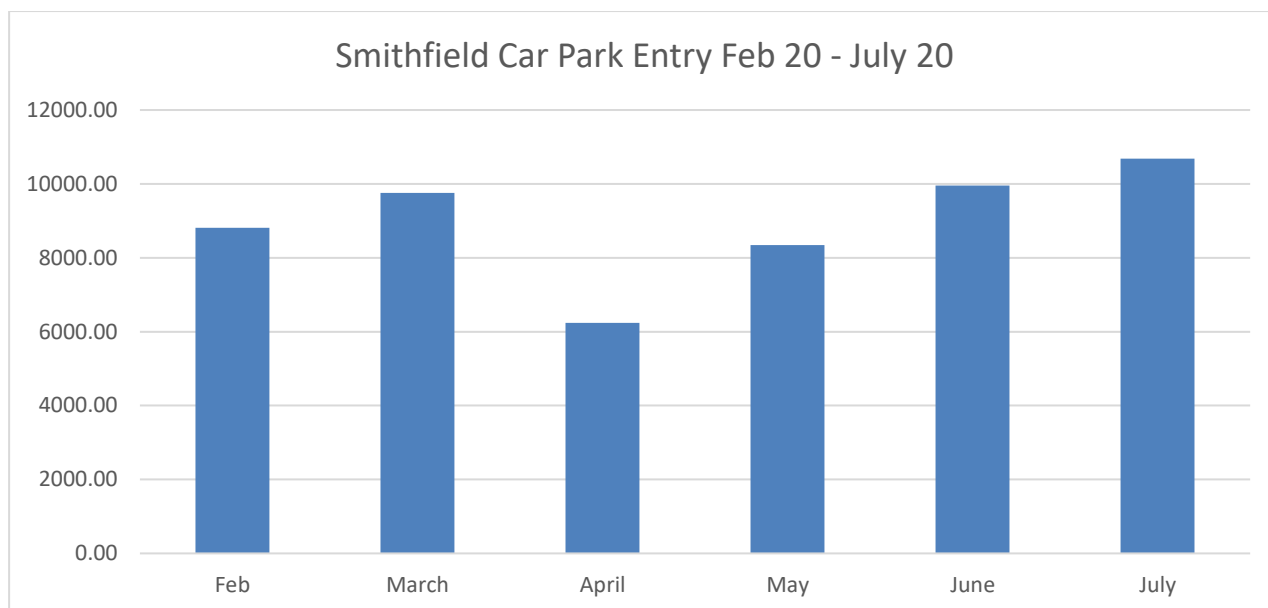
#### Background

1. Saba, the City parking contractor have met 95-100% of their monthly targets for repair and response, ensuring issues with ticket machines, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) or barriers are rectified within service level agreement parameters.
2. Capital works started in the car park in March 2020, with new bay marking completed within a six week period. In addition, Smithfield locally funded kerb markings, safety give-way and directional signs were upgraded to increase usability and way-finding.
3. From mid-March, Covid-19 restrictions had a major impact on traffic movement into the City and with restrictions to travel, there was a consequent decrease in parking usage and loss of income.

## Current Position

4. Income for the 6-month period February 2020 to July 2020 was £345,258; a decrease of £74,434 (18%) for the same period last year. Income for the first four months of this financial year is £340,329; a decrease of £69,169 (22%) against last year. The decrease in income compared to last year is predominantly due to the current Covid-19 pandemic and latterly congestion charge increases, resulting in a decline in the number of vehicles in the City. Due to restrictions being eased, May to July has seen a slow but steady recovery.
5. Due to Covid-19 and the increased pressure on the NHS, more staff were required to work in local hospitals and medical practices. To ease this pressure, Smithfield allocated 150 free parking spaces to NHS staff. 415 free parking sessions were recorded for St Bartholomew's staff and 176 for patients.





6. Since March 2020, Just Park, a third-party parking solution company, are now utilising up to 40 spaces within the car park. Bookings are taken through their booking portal and complement other car parks in London and beyond that their service offers. March to July recorded 814 Smithfield bookings, generating £5,020 in additional income to the Corporation.
7. The Department for the Built Environment is currently drafting a Committee paper for decision on the proposed future pricing strategy for the next 3 years across all City car parks from April 2021.

## Conclusion

8. The car park is currently operating 16% under budget. At the present time there is no expectation that this shortfall will be fully recovered due to the current Covid-19 situation and the congestion charge levies. Additional income from Just Park will go some way to alleviate this but is not likely to recover the full deficit.

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