

Staff paying daily fine due to backlog

Rachel Hains

news@nqo.com

HOSPITAL staff are paying £25 daily fines to park at the JR because a backlog in permit applications means they will not get one until December 'at the earliest.'

A member of staff told the Oxford Mail that they have 'resorted to incorporating a daily fine' into their budget because they need to park on-site.

Staff are encouraged to walk or cycle to work, with free parking available from the city council at Oxford's park and rides. But one source called this 'unrealistic' for those on shifts, who may finish in the middle of the night.

One group particularly impacted by the backlog are junior doctors, whose placements at the hospital will finish in March.

A source told the Oxford Mail that junior doctors need to be able to drive in because the nature of such placements means they moving from hospital to hospital.

"Your next placement might be in Milton Keynes, Reading, or Slough. So there's no point moving into a city if you may be out again in six

months," they added.

Parking at the John Radcliffe has long been a contentious issue, with residents calling for a multi-storey car park to be built at the site. Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) said it has 'approximately twice as many staff based at the JR as total parking spaces (including visitor spaces), so parking has to be prioritised for those staff who need it most - this has always been the case'.

In April, the government announced it would cover the cost of parking for NHS staff at hospitals during the coronavirus pandemic. But staff at the John Radcliffe were told this would only apply to those who had obtained a permit, leaving one nurse accusing managers of risking the spread of the virus.

When approached for comment about the permit backlog, a spokesman for Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) said "There are fewer staff currently working on site (a number of non-clinical staff are homeworking) and many staff choose to walk or cycle to work, or to use public transport, but even so, there is always a waiting list for permits.

"The car parking team are endeavouring to prioritise staff who need a permit in order to carry out their job (for instance visiting patients at home).



Parking has been a controversial subject at the John Radcliffe Hospital for many years

"Many staff are seeking to renew their permits at the moment, and the very high volume of applications is also leading to some delays. We thank staff for their patience while our parking team work through the applications."

News of the backlog comes just

over a week after some staff were relocated from Manor, being told it was due to a 'possible sale' of the property and surrounding parking.

When approached for comment, a statement from Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) did not deny staff were being

moved, but insisted it was not due to a planned sale.

The trust was 'in the process of reviewing non-clinical buildings around our sites, particularly older ones such as Manor House that are in poor repair and are difficult to maintain'.

Just Go!
Holidays

UK BREAKS

By Coach from Oxford

Reader travel

Oxford Mail

TORQUAY

Entertainment Break



Departing Mon 18 Jan '21

Banish those winter blues and treat yourself to a fun-filled entertainment break on the English Riviera. With live entertainment every night and a fabulous drinks offer included at our hotel in Torquay, this is the perfect way to get 2021 off to a great start!

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Oxford
- ✓ 2 nights at the Riviera Hotel, Torquay with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ 99p bar (for 3 hours every evening) on selected drinks
- ✓ Live entertainment every evening
- ✓ Use of leisure facilities

Optional excursion to Buckfast Abbey & Totnes (£6pp)

3 Days by Coach only £99

Single Supplement £70

ANDRÉ RIEU

Live in Birmingham



Departing Sat 17 Apr '21

Violin master André Rieu is back with a new springtime UK 2021 tour, including a date at the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham. Don't miss the chance to see the 'Modern King of Waltz' perform with his 60-piece Johann Strauss Orchestra - a show to remember!

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Oxford
- ✓ Overnight stay at a selected 3 or 4-star hotel in the Midlands area with breakfast
- ✓ Ticket to André Rieu concert at the Resorts World Arena, Birmingham (lower tier)
- ✓ Return coach transfers from the hotel to the Resorts World Arena
- ✓ En-route visit to Stratford-upon-Avon

Ticket upgrades available

2 Days by Coach only £199

Single Supplement £35

LIVERPOOL

Port Sunlight & Chester



Departing Thu 6 May '21

Liverpool is a bustling city with a glorious seafaring history, rejuvenated waterfront and an unrivalled musical heritage, being the former home of The Beatles. We enjoy this fabulous city with a guided tour, explore nearby Chester plus beautiful Port Sunlight.

Your break includes

- ✓ Return coach travel from Oxford
- ✓ 4 nights at the Holiday Inn Runcorn with dinner & breakfast
- ✓ Guided city tour of Liverpool
- ✓ Entrance to Port Sunlight Museum & Edwardian workers' cottage
- ✓ Excursions to Liverpool, Port Sunlight, Southport & Chester

5 Days by Coach only £289

Single Supplement £60

For more information, or to book, please call

03332 342 523 Quote NQC

033 numbers are free within inclusive minutes packages otherwise standard rates apply.

or visit us online at

justgoholidays.com/NQC



Operated by Just Go! Holidays Ltd. Coach package holidays and short breaks are subject to Just Go! Holidays terms and conditions and are financially protected by a bond held with Bonded Coach Holidays Group (BCH). Tours offered subject to availability. Errors and omissions excepted. Prices are per person, based on two people sharing a db/twn room.



Book Today!