NEWS RELEASE

29 October 2026

DRIVING HOME FOR CHRISTMAS – AND PARKING FOR FREE

Residents, visitors and businesses can look forward to the return of the council's free parking initiative across Folkestone, Hythe and Romney Marsh this December.

To support the local economy, charges at Folkestone & Hythe District Council car parks and on-street pay-and-display bays will once again be waived on the three Saturdays leading up to Christmas.

- Saturday 5 December
- Saturday 12 December
- Saturday 19 December

Cllr Polly Blakemore – Cabinet Member for Transport, Regulatory Services and Building Control – said: "This is a wonderful incentive encouraging shoppers to visit the district's high streets for all their festive needs, while also helping the local economy.

"It's an important time of year to support our huge range of independent traders, as well as bigger brands – so be sure to utilise our car parks if you're driving into town."

Controlled parking and limited waiting (free) restrictions are still in place on the days listed above. This is to ensure people can park close to their homes and allow for a sufficient turnover of spaces.

Drivers can also apply for a Residents' Discount Parking Permit to park in council-run car parks all year round for £80 and quarterly for £20, allowing residents to park their vehicle for three hours in long-term car parks and two hours in short-term car parks.

Terms and conditions apply – visit the council's website for more information.

ENDS

Notes to Editors:

For more information, please email communications@folkestone-hythe.gov.uk

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