This Council notes:

* The Covid-19 Pandemic has had a devasting effect on business of all sizes, but especially small to medium business.
* While it is recognised that the government went above and beyond to support businesses through Covid grants and business rate relief, many businesses are still struggling.
* Eighteen months of lockdown have taken their toll on businesses in Harrow.
* Parking costs, even before the pandemic, often discourage people from shopping locally.
* Local Authorities should be doing everything in their power to encourage residents to use local shops and support local businesses.
* Research collected for smallbusiness.co.uk in 2017 shows that 9 in 10 residents would be more likely to visit the high street if there were some element of free parking.
* In February at the Budget Full Council meeting, Harrow Conservatives proposed a costed solution which would deliver one-hour free parking at Council car parks for one year.

This Council resolves:

* To support local residents when parking to use local shops.
* To call on the Executive to implement the fully costed proposals put forward by Harrow Conservatives at the February Full Council meeting and introduce one-hour free car parking across all Council car parks.

Proposed by Cllr Paul Osborn

Seconded by Cllr Anjana Patel

*In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 15.6, this Motion is moved by the Leader of the Opposition, as it relates to a matter within the powers of the Executive, to not stand automatically referred to the next meeting of the Executive but shall be dealt with as if Council Procedure Rule 15.7.1 applied.*