

Welwyn Garden City
Summary of Car Park Survey Results
April 2019 and December 2019 Surveys

Introduction

- Ove Arup and Partners (“Arup”) has been appointed to provide transport advice for the development proposals at five plots, known collectively as WGC 2120.
- To inform the strategy around the rationalisation of town centre car parking and the phasing of WHBC car parks, a snapshot car park accumulation survey was undertaken for a weekday and Saturday in April 2019.
- To understand the peak demand in car parking, a further weekday and Saturday car park accumulation survey was commissioned in December 2019.
- This document provides a summary of the results, including a comparison between the April and December 2019 surveys, and also presents the survey results by individual car park.

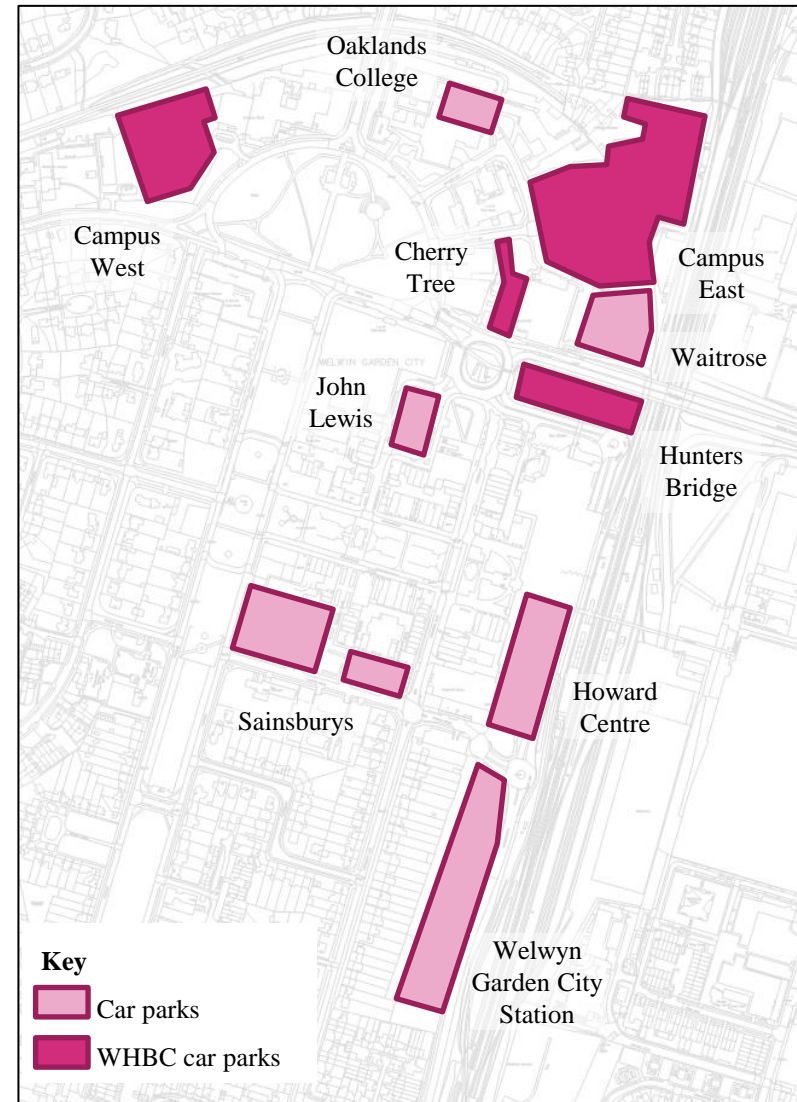
Car Park Accumulation Surveys

Car park accumulation surveys were commissioned and undertaken on the following dates:

- April 2019
 - Thursday 4th April 2019 (06:00 to 22:00)
 - Saturday 6th April 2019 (07:00 to 21:00)
- December 2019
 - Thursday 19th December 2019 (06:00 to 22:00)
 - Saturday 21st December 2019 (07:00 to 21:00)

The scope of the surveys included all car parks shown on the right.

A count of the number of spaces and the number of occupied bays were undertaken at the start of each survey. The number of vehicles arriving and departing by 15-minute periods were then captured to provide the occupancy of each car park throughout the day.



April 2019 Survey Summary

- The following car parks reached full or almost full occupancy:
 - Campus East (weekday only)
 - John Lewis (weekday and Saturday)
 - Oaklands College (weekday only)
 - Sainsburys undercroft (Saturday only)
 - Sainsburys surface (weekday and Saturday)
- The following car parks had spare capacity (less than 80% on both days):
 - Howard Centre
 - Welwyn Garden City Station
 - Cherry Tree
- Total spaces counted = 3,586
- In total, up to 79% of all spaces were occupied on a typical weekday and 54% on a Saturday.

Car park	No. of spaces counted	Max. Weekday Occupancy	Max. Saturday Occupancy
Campus East	584	94%	18%
Campus West	315	98%	64%
Hunters Bridge	651	82%	70%
Cherry Tree	51	55%	29%
John Lewis	78	97%	97%
Howard Centre	725	58%	52%
Welwyn Garden City Station	401	70%	25%
Oaklands College	106	94%	73%
Waitrose	287	82%	81%
Sainsbury's (Undercroft)	322	76%	100%
Sainsbury's (Surface)	66	97%	97%
Total	3,586	77%	53%

December 2019 Survey Summary

- The following car parks reached full or almost full occupancy:
 - Campus West (weekday only)
 - Hunters Bridge (weekday only)
 - John Lewis (weekday and Saturday)
 - Oaklands College (Saturday only)
 - Waitrose (Saturday only)
 - Sainsburys undercroft (Saturday only)
 - Sainsburys surface (weekday and Saturday)
- Sainsburys (surface level) was observed to have vehicles circulating and queuing in the aisles.
- The following car parks had spare capacity (less than 80% on both days):
 - Campus East
 - Welwyn Garden City Station
 - Cherry Tree
- Total spaces counted = 3,594
- In total, up to 82% of all spaces were occupied on a typical weekday and 66% on a Saturday.

Car park	No. of spaces counted	Max. Weekday Occupancy	Max. Saturday Occupancy
Campus East	584	62%	30%
Campus West	315	101%	80%
Hunters Bridge	651	93%	74%
Cherry Tree	51	63%	35%
John Lewis	78	97%	99%
Howard Centre	725	85%	88%
Welwyn Garden City Station	401	64%	33%
Oaklands College	106	57%	92%
Waitrose	295*	88%	93%
Sainsbury's (Undercroft)	322	104%	101%
Sainsbury's (Surface)	66	117%	133%
Total	3,594	82%	66%

* Waitrose car park was counted to have +8 more spaces (including 4 electric charging spaces) since the April survey.

April vs December Comparison

- Changes in December car parking demand varied by car park.
- Campus East and Station car parks appeared to have a reduction in long stay demand on the December weekday. Hunters Bridge and Howard Centre dwell time also reduced noticeably on the December weekday.
- Increased in retail short stay demand in Hunters Bridge, Howard Centre, Waitrose and Sainsburys. Campus West parking demand increased in the December weekday and Saturday surveys.
- Sainburys car parks are overcapacity in December but the issues were self-contained.
- When compared to April, December had an increase of +3,408 vehicles on a weekday and +2,853 vehicles on a Saturday.
- The reduction in December average dwell times for most car parks reduced the impact on car park occupancy.

Car park	Maximum Occupancy					
	April	Weekday December	Difference	April	Saturday December	Difference
Campus East	94%	62%	-32%	18%	30%	+12%
Campus West	98%	101%	+3%	64%	80%	+16%
Hunters Bridge	82%	93%	+11%	70%	74%	+4%
Cherry Tree	55%	63%	+8%	29%	35%	+6%
John Lewis	97%	97%	0%	97%	99%	+2%
Howard Centre	58%	85%	+27%	52%	88%	+36%
Welwyn Garden City Station	70%	64%	-6%	25%	33%	+8%
Oaklands College	94%	57%	-37%	73%	92%	+19%
Waitrose	82%	88%	6%	81%	93%	+12%
Sainsburys (Undercroft)	76%	104%	+28%	100%	101%	+1%
Sainsburys (Surface)	97%	117%	+20%	97%	133%	+36%
Total	77%	82%	+5%	53%	66%	+13%

Car park	Daily Entry Vehicles*					
	April	Weekday December	Difference	April	Saturday December	Difference
Campus East	724	527	-197	167	285	+118
Campus West	806	1,031	+225	764	965	+201
Hunters Bridge	1,106	1,689	+583	1,398	1,781	+383
Cherry Tree	129	152	+23	44	82	+38
John Lewis	388	480	+92	390	449	+59
Howard Centre	859	1,607	+748	1,134	2,039	+905
Welwyn Garden City Station	338	322	-16	207	287	+80
Oaklands College	187	101	-86	152	121	-31
Waitrose	2,213	2,866	+653	2,516	3,059	+543
Sainsburys (Undercroft)	1,460	2,229	+769	1,831	2,058	+227
Sainsburys (Surface)	1,434	2,048	+614	1,638	1,968	+330
Total	9,644	13,052	+3,408	10,241	13,094	+2,853

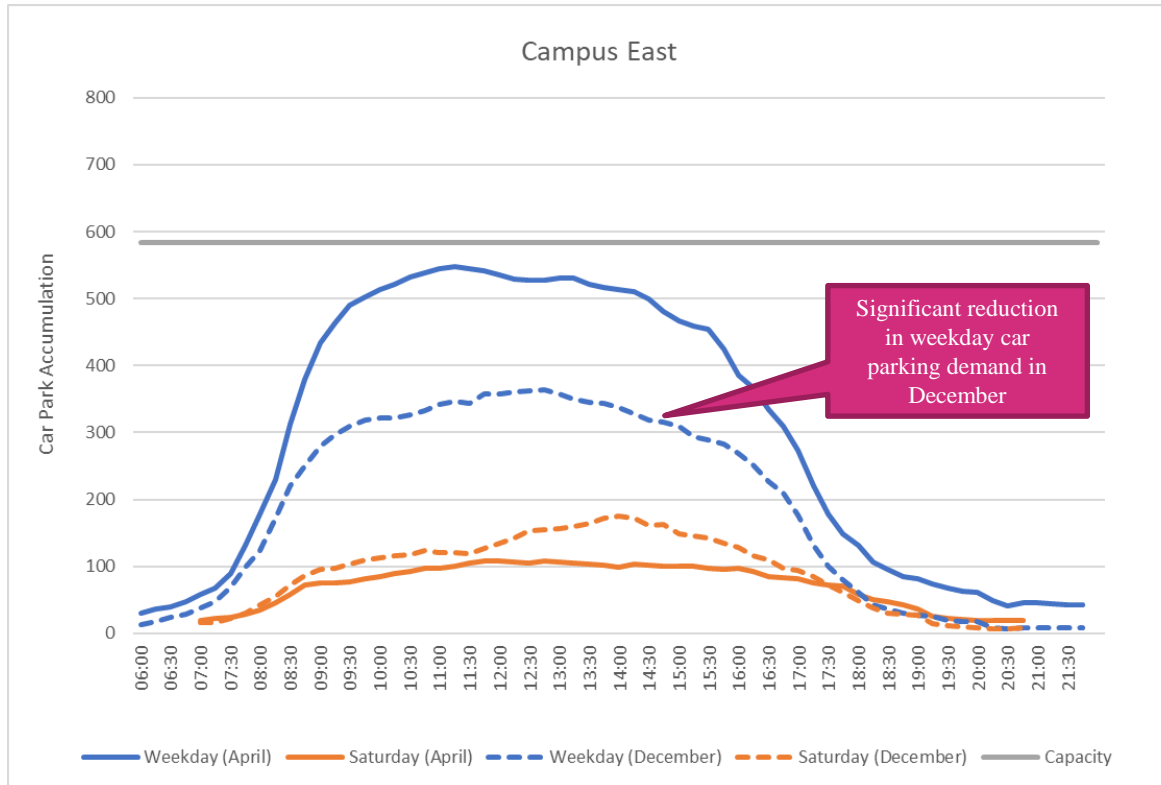
Car park	Average dwell times (hours)					
	April	Weekday December	Difference	April	Saturday December	Difference
Campus East	6.6	5.7	-0.9	6.1	4.6	-1.6
Campus West	3.1	2.9	-0.1	1.7	2.0	0.3
Hunters Bridge	4.2	2.9	-1.2	2.1	1.9	-0.2
Cherry Tree	2.0	2.3	0.3	2.3	1.7	-0.6
John Lewis	1.6	1.6	-0.1	1.6	1.6	0.0
Howard Centre	4.0	3.0	-1.0	2.2	2.1	-0.1
Welwyn Garden City Station	8.9	8.0	-0.9	4.3	4.0	-0.3
Oaklands College	4.7	4.1	-0.6	3.2	3.2	0.1
Waitrose	0.7	0.7	0.0	0.7	0.8	0.1
Sainsburys (Undercroft)	1.5	1.3	-0.2	1.3	1.4	0.1
Sainsburys (Surface)	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.3	0.4	0.1
Total	2.5	2.0	-0.6	1.4	1.5	0.1

* Weekday (06:00 to 22:00) and Saturday (07:00 to 21:00)

Individual Car Parks

Campus East

584
spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	547 (94%) 37 free spaces	6 hrs 36 mins
Saturday	108 (19%) 476 free spaces	6 hrs 6 mins

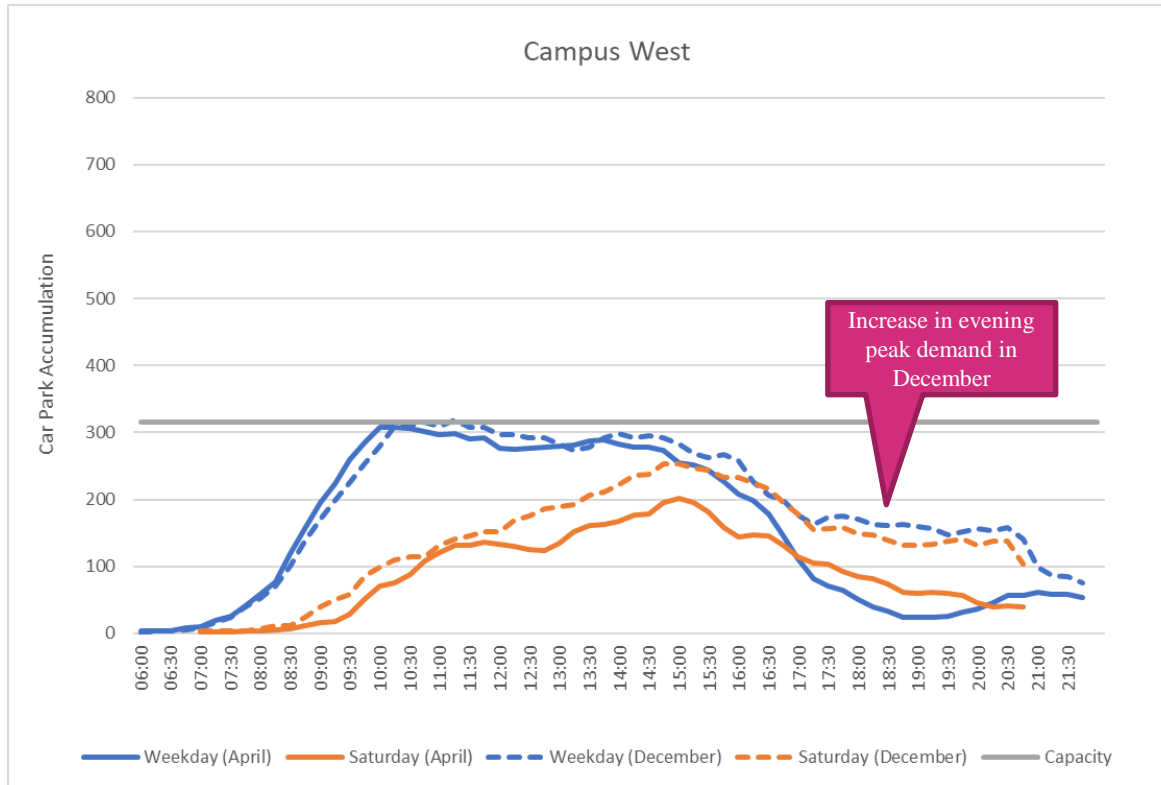
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	364 (62%) 220 free spaces	5 hrs 42 mins
Saturday	175 (30%) 409 free spaces	4 hrs 36 mins

DECEMBER

Campus West

315 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	308 (98%) 7 free spaces	3 hrs 6 mins
Saturday	201 (64%) 114 free spaces	1 hr 42 mins

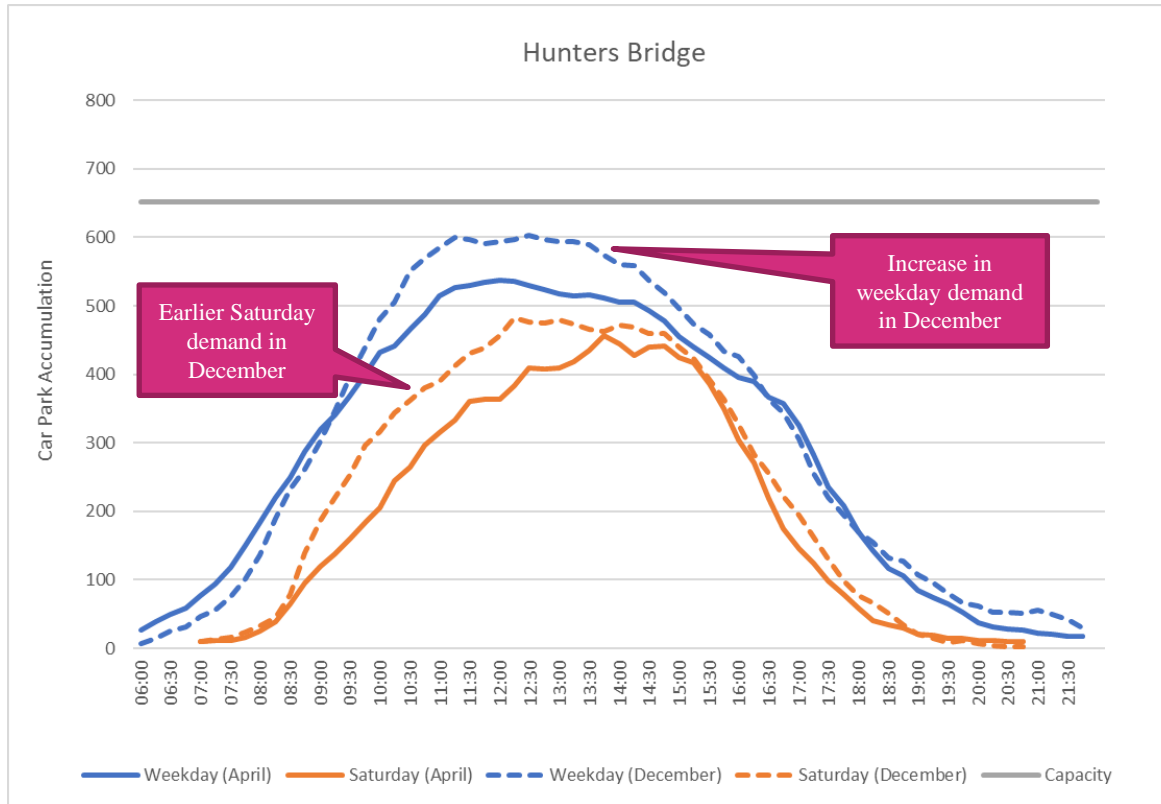
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	319 (101%) -4 free spaces	2 hrs 54 mins
Saturday	253 (80%) 62 free spaces	2 hrs

DECEMBER

Hunters Bridge

651 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	537 (82%) 114 free spaces	4 hrs 12 mins
Saturday	456 (70%) 195 free spaces	2 hrs 6 mins

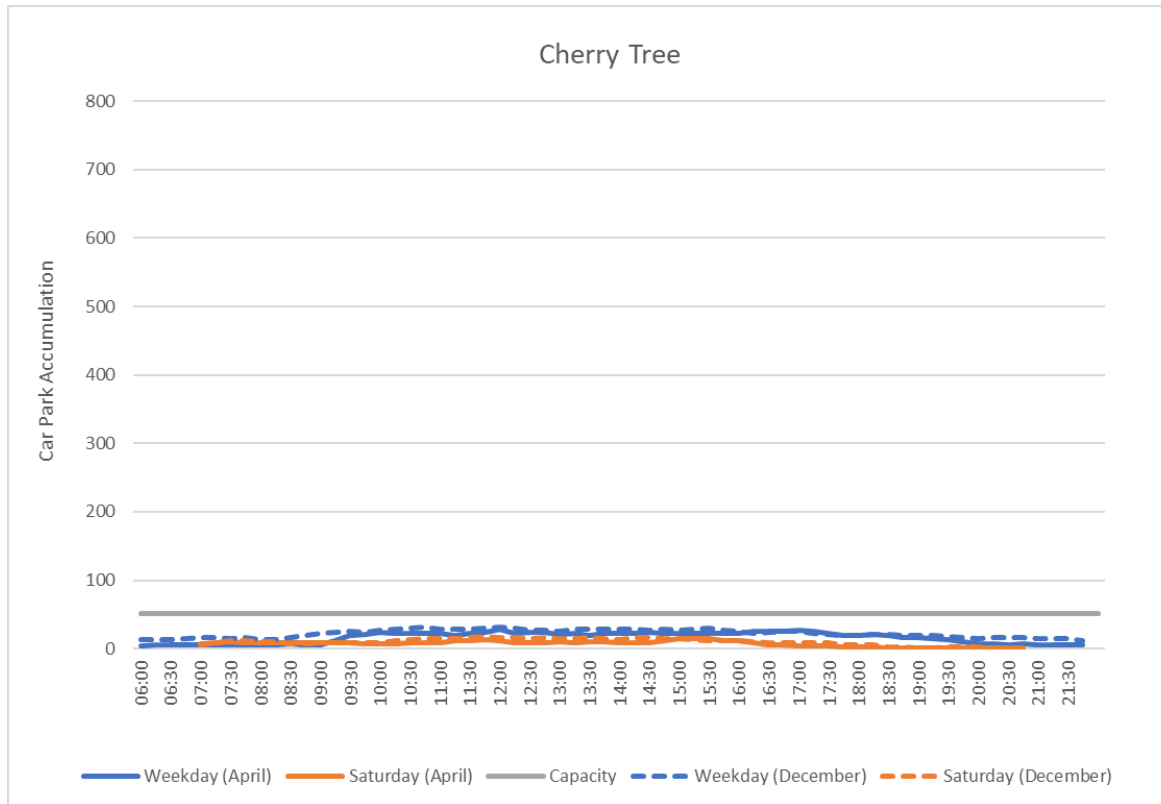
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	603 (93%) 48 free spaces	2 hrs 54 mins
Saturday	482 (74%) 169 free spaces	1 hr 54 mins

DECEMBER

Cherry Tree

51 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	28 (55%) 23 free spaces	2 hrs
Saturday	15 (36%) 27 free spaces	2 hrs 18 mins

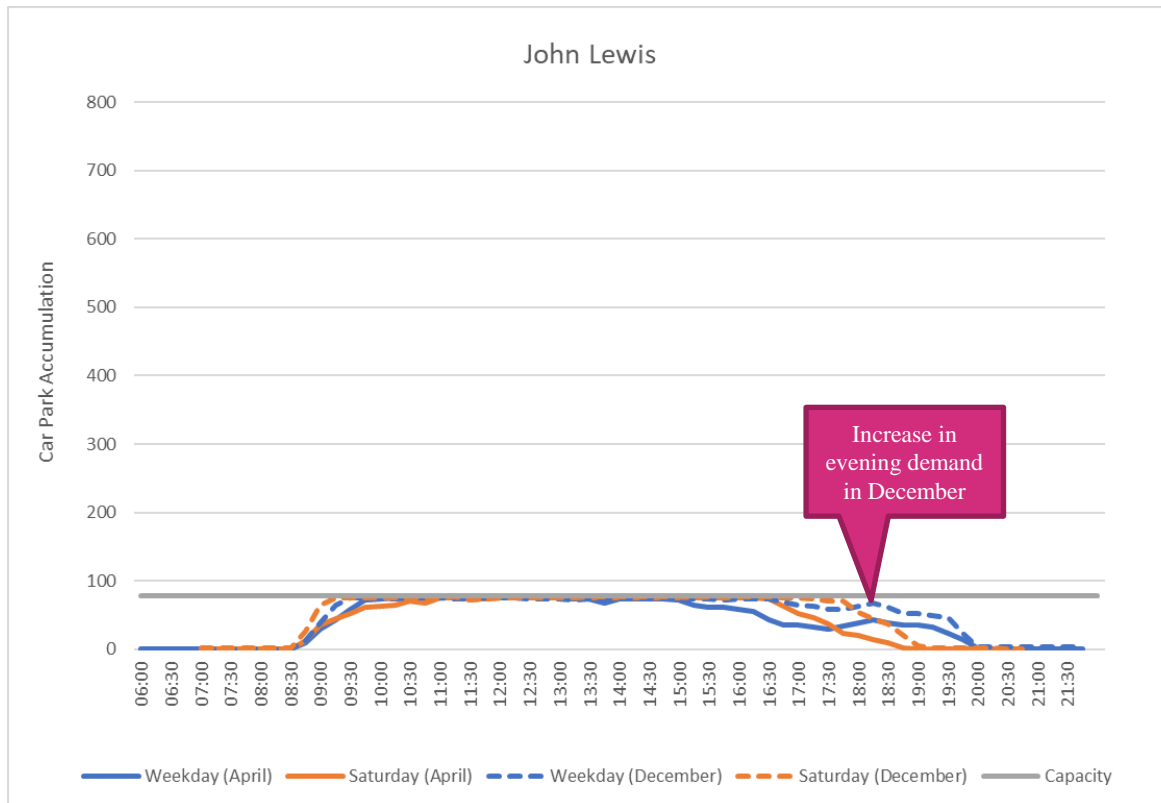
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	32 (63%) 19 free spaces	2 hrs 18 mins
Saturday	18 (35%) 33 free spaces	1 hr 42 mins

DECEMBER

John Lewis

78 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	76 (97%) 2 free spaces	1 hr 38 mins
Saturday	76 (97%) 2 free spaces	1 hr 35 mins

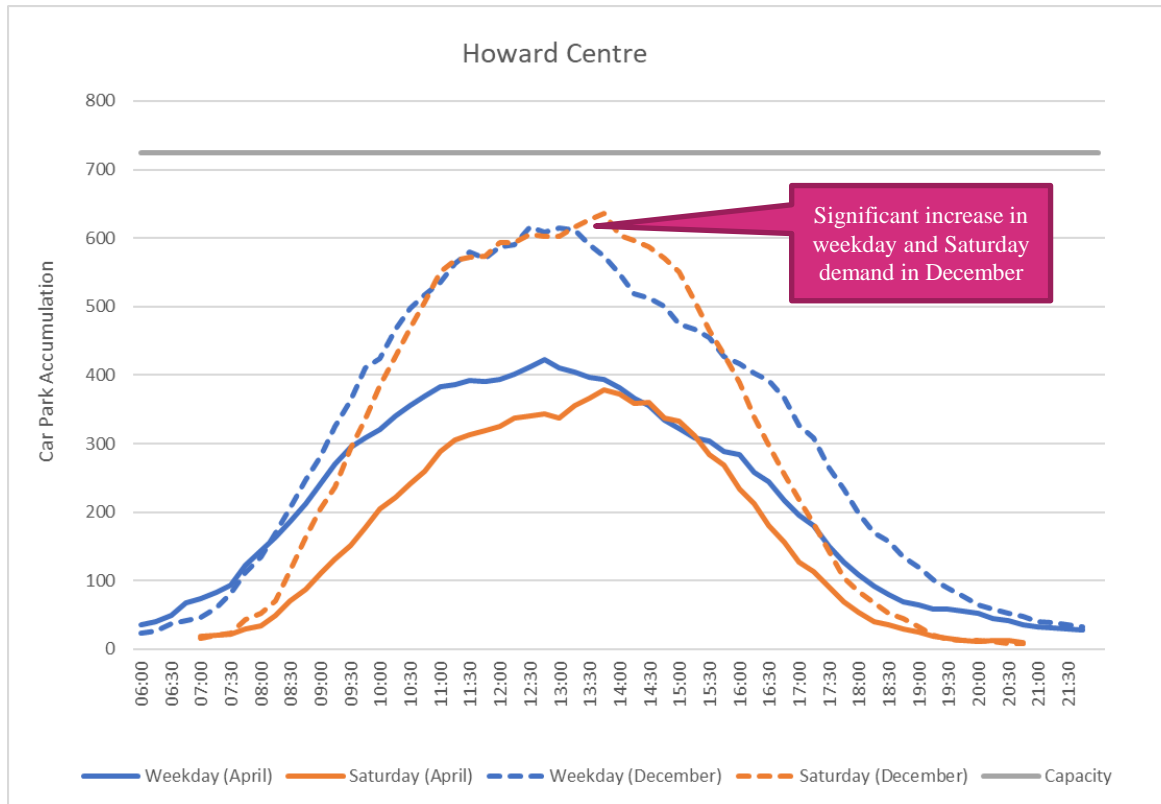
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	76 (97%) 2 free spaces	1 hr 34 mins
Saturday	77 (99%) 1 free space	1 hr 38 mins

DECEMBER

Howard Centre

725
spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	422 (58%) 303 free spaces	4 hrs
Saturday	378 (52%) 347 free spaces	2 hrs 12 mins

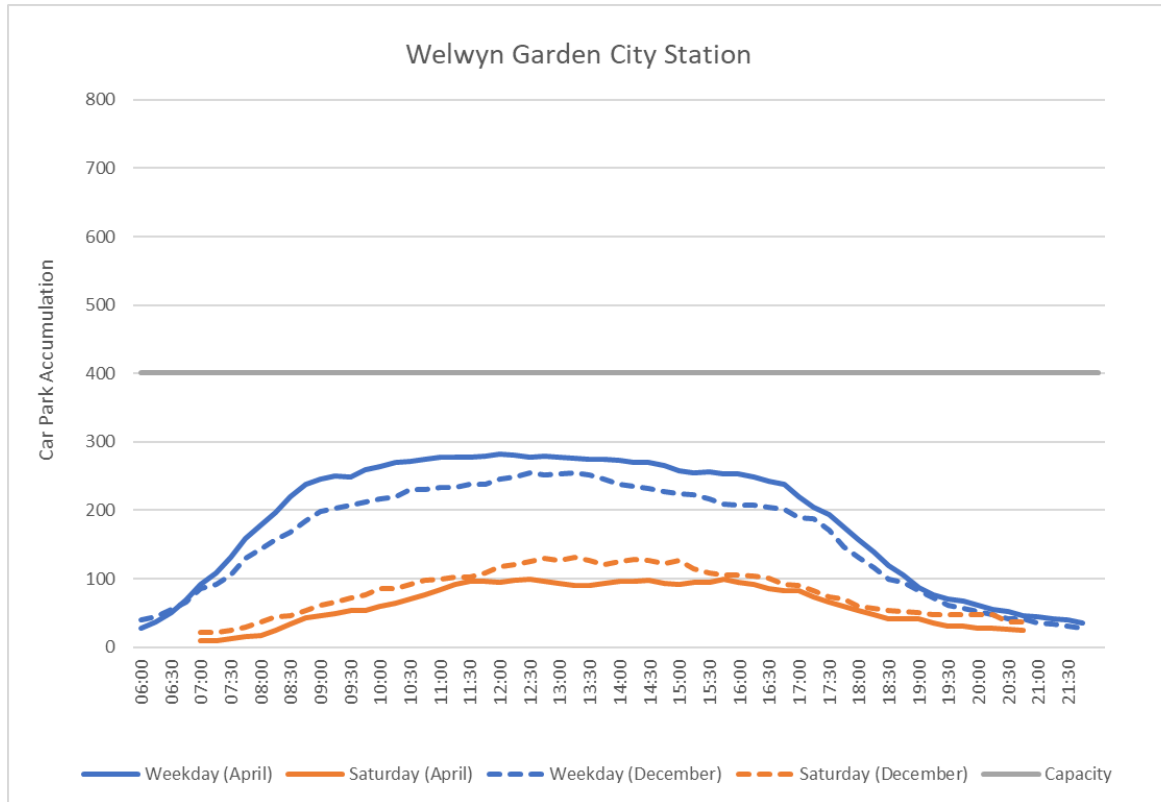
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	617 (85%) 108 free spaces	3 hrs
Saturday	636 (88%) 89 free spaces	2 hrs 6 mins

DECEMBER

Welwyn Garden City Station

401
spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	282 (70%) 119 free spaces	8 hrs 54 mins
Saturday	99 (25%) 302 free spaces	4 hrs 18 mins

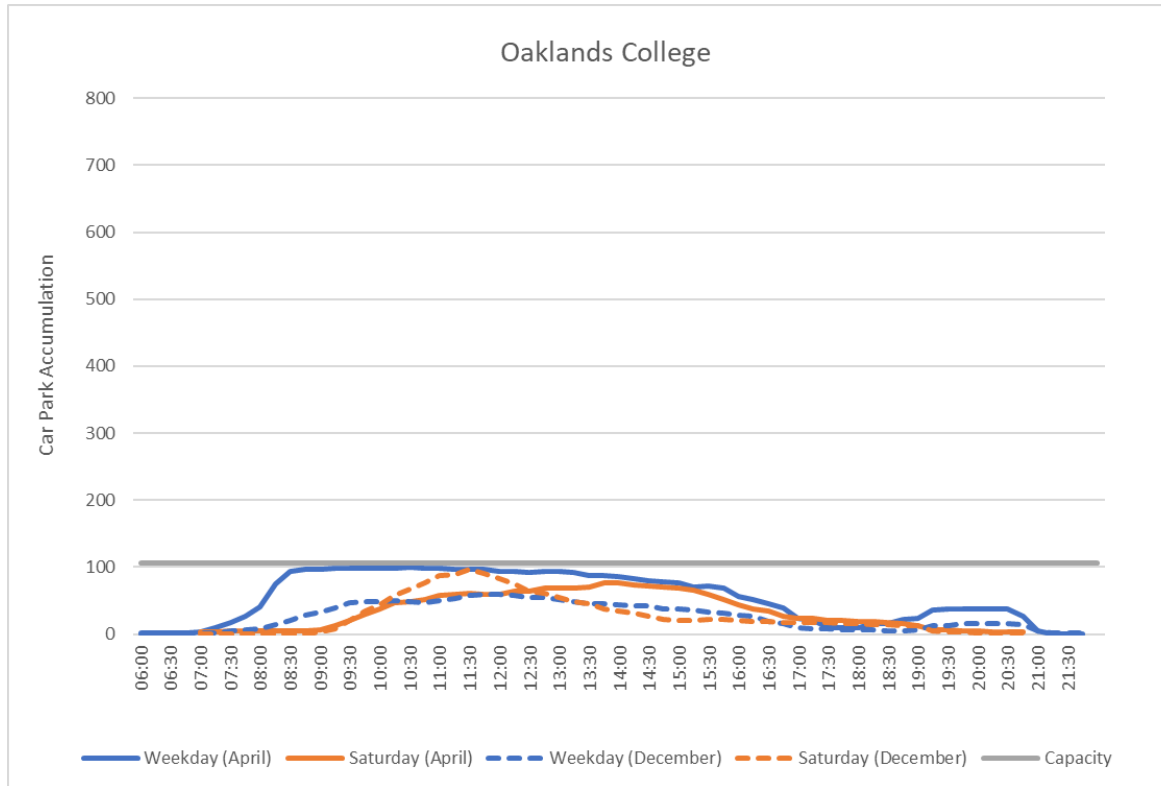
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	255 (64%) 146 free spaces	8 hrs
Saturday	131 (33%) 270 free spaces	4 hrs

DECEMBER

Oaklands College

106
spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	100 (94%) 6 free spaces	4 hrs 42 mins
Saturday	77 (73%) 29 free spaces	3 hrs 12 mins

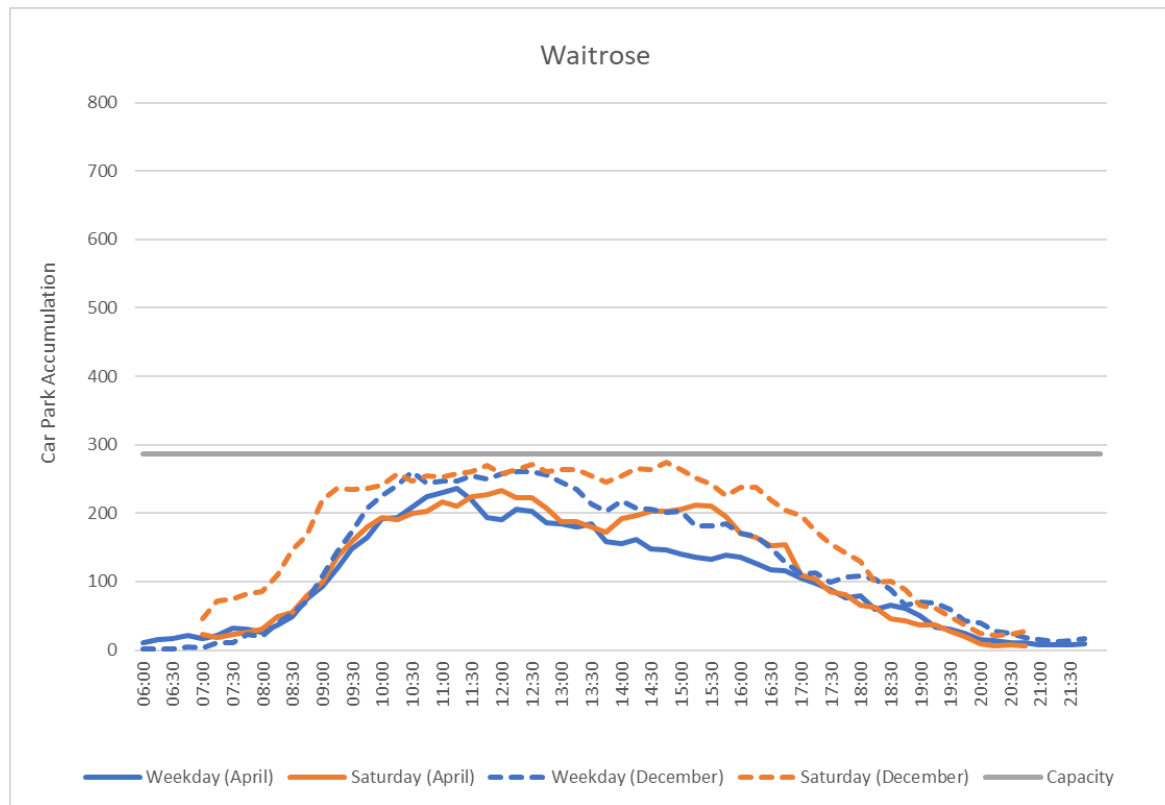
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	60 (57%) 46 free spaces	4 hrs 6 mins
Saturday	97 (92%) 9 free spaces	3 hrs 12 mins

DECEMBER

Waitrose

287
spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	236 (82%) 51 free spaces	45 mins
Saturday	233 (81%) 54 free spaces	43 mins

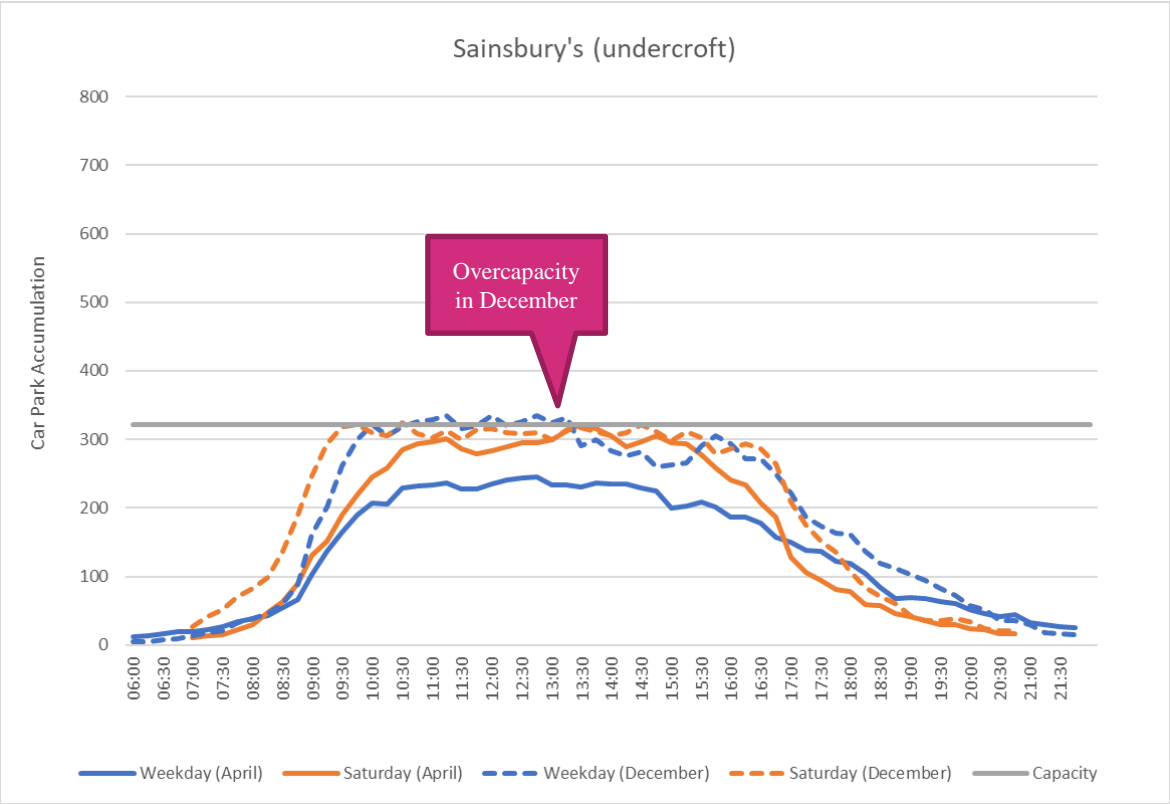
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Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	261 (88%) 34 free spaces	43 mins
Saturday	274 (93%) 21 free spaces	50 mins

DECEMBER

Sainsbury's (Undercroft)

322 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	245 (76%) 77 free spaces	1 hr 30 mins
Saturday	322 (100%) No free spaces	1 hr 18 mins

APRIL

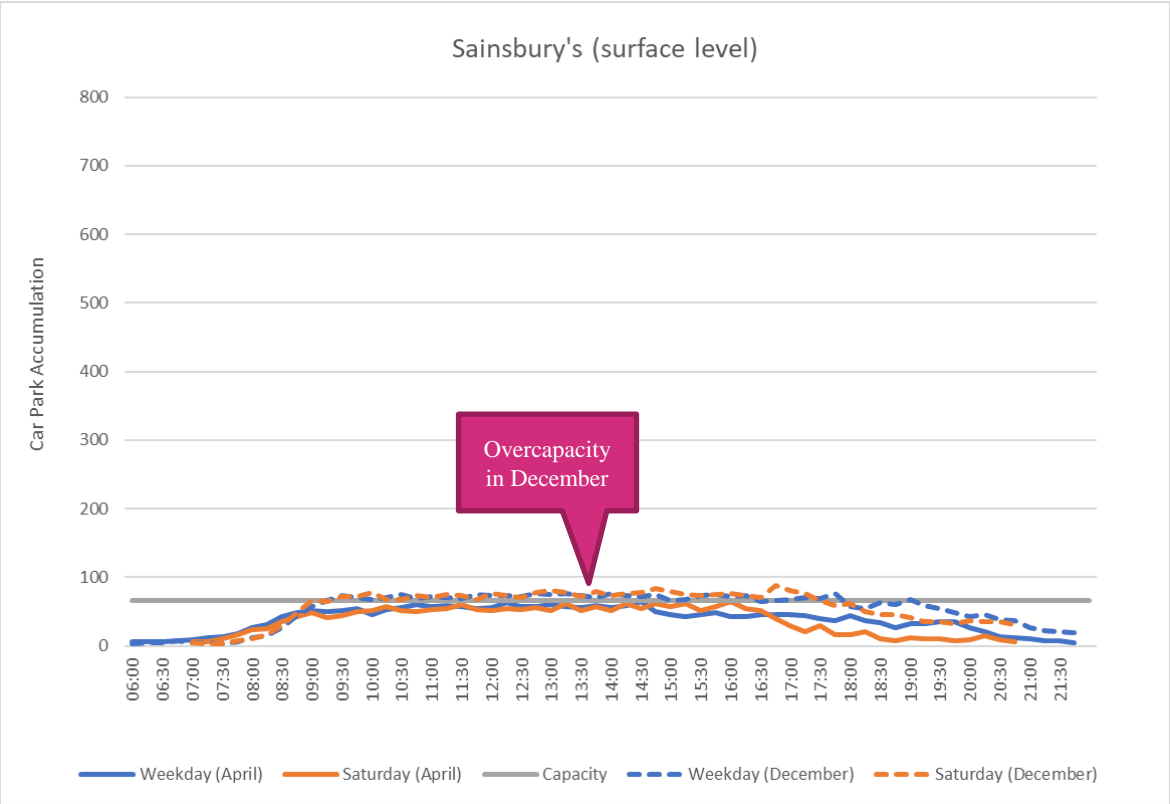
Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	335 (114%) -13 free spaces	1 hour 18 mins
Saturday	324 (101%) -2 free spaces	1 hr 25 mins

DECEMBER

Indicates vehicles were circulating in car park

Sainsbury's (Surface level)

66 spaces



Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	64 (97%) 2 free spaces	24 mins
Saturday	64 (97%) 2 free spaces	18 mins

APRIL

Day	Max occupancy	Average dwell time
Weekday	77 (117%) -11 free spaces	27 mins
Saturday	88 (133%) -22 free spaces	25 mins

DECEMBER

Indicates vehicles were circulating in car park