

# Parking Scams And Card Charges Come Under Fire

By **Alexander Baron** - Mar 12, 2015



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The hapless motorist has long been used as a cash cow by both local authorities and by private, often rogue, parking enforcers, but last week the Government said enough is enough. Legislation is **shortly to be introduced** to curtail the mendacious issuing of parking tickets by wardens. Motorists are now to be given ten minutes grace before tickets are issued. Some have suggested the timing of this sweetener is suspicious, with a General Election just around the corner, but it may be that the Government is finally listening to the oppressed motorist. There have also been calls to curb the use of CCTV cameras for this purpose. While CCTV has *bona fide* uses, there is a very thick line between crime prevention and detection on the one hand, and spying on people, including motorists on the other.



*Card payments will have a cap on fees set at .3%*

Nigel Farage is far from the only person to have no time for the EU, but occasionally it too does something worthwhile. The latest bit of **good news** from this unaccountable body is a law to cap payments on card fees at .3%. Pablo Zalba of Spain has been credited with this. For too long the banks have had things their own way, even after the last great crash, which was entirely of their own making. Cheaper fees benefit everyone, especially retailers. The bill was passed by 621 votes with 26 against and 29 abstentions. Any political party would relish such a majority in an election, as for Messrs Cameron and Miliband, dream on! The bad news is, the new cap will not come into effect until October.

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