

■ MAYOR TELLS WESTMINSTER TO THINK AGAIN AS OTHER CITIES WITH NIGHT CHARGES WARN OF DAMAGE

DON'T DO IT: BORIS PARKING FEES PLEA



Peter Dominiczak, Benedict Moore-Bridger and Jonathan Prynne

BORIS JOHNSON today called on Westminster council to abandon plans for a "nightlife tax" on central London after other cities warned of parking fees' disastrous economic impact.

The Mayor demanded a rethink as businesses across Britain said weekend and evening charges had hit trade.

Westminster leader and hedge fund millionaire Colin Barrow has cited regional centres such as Nottingham and Stoke, as well as international cit-

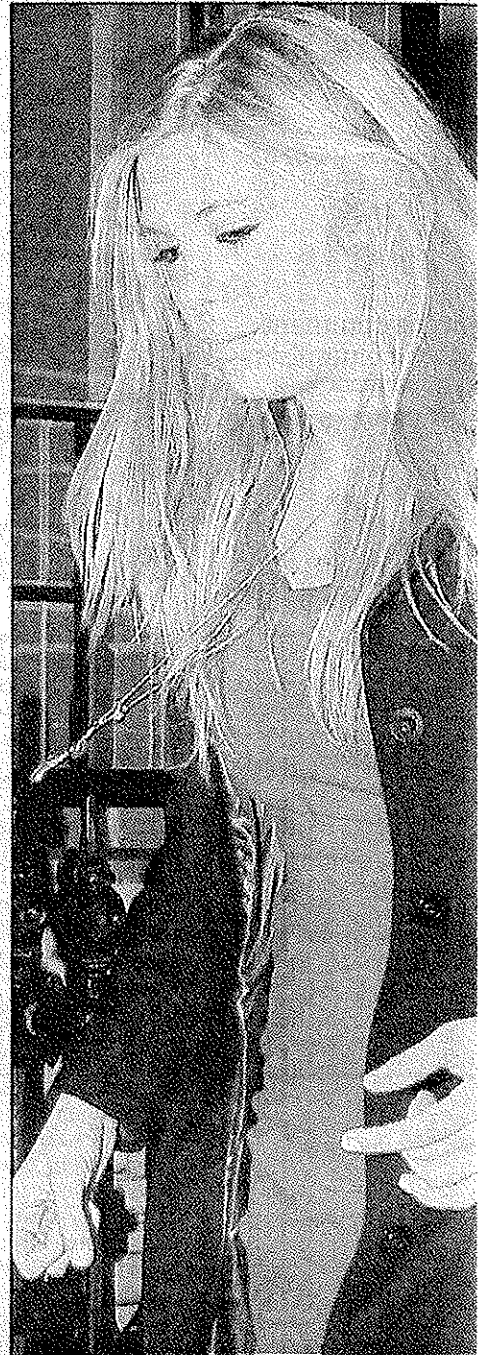
ies including New York, as successful examples of places where drivers already have to pay to park at night.

But the Standard found the charges in other cities are being blamed for a downturn in business – and Stoke MP told Westminster: "Don't do it."

Our research also shows the parking fees elsewhere are less expensive and widespread than those proposed for the West End.

The Mayor told the Standard that Mr Barrow "needs to think again". He went

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