

COUNCIL CABINET 27 NOVEMBER 2007

ITEM 18

Cabinet Member for Planning and Transportation

On and Off-Street Parking – Proposed Amendments

SUMMARY

1. The 2007/08 budget review process, agreed by Council, set increased income targets for parking operations amounting to some £225,000 per annum. These increases were indicated to come from increased charges and also from an increase in the amount of areas where parking charges apply. This paper sets out how this budget commitment could be best delivered.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To approve the increased parking tariffs. The new charges to be effective from beginning of January 2008.
- 2.2 To approve the principal of extending pay and display parking and to authorise the Corporate Director, Community and Regeneration, to commence advertisement of necessary Traffic Regulation Orders. The new restrictions to be introduced by 17 March 2008, unless significant objections are received.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. The proposals will help to satisfy the 07/08 increased income targets and also cover the full year effect of assumed standard inflation income increases for 08/09.



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Report of the Corporate Director of Regeneration and Community

On and Off-Street Parking – Proposed Amendments

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 It is proposed that all existing on and off-street tariffs should be increased as shown in the table at appendix 3. It is important to note that there have been no increases for almost two years hence the increases on individual tariffs, now proposed, reflect increases largely in line with inflation. It is considered that these amendments should be introduced from January 2008.
- 1.2 On our 'Pay and Display' car parks a system where different tariffs apply during the daytime and the evening has always been in operation. It has been apparent that operating these different tariffs has caused some confusion and inconvenience for some of our customers. Shortening the hours for which charges are made and applying one single tariff structure across the whole charging period would reduce uncertainty for customers without unduly affecting income. It is proposed that the daytime tariffs should apply between 8am and 8pm but that no evening charge is levied, so that parking is free after 8pm. This proposal would not apply to any multistorey car parks because they already use a more customer-focussed operating system, but the charging period within the On-Street 'Pay and Display' inner area, essentially inside the inner ring road, would also be increased from 6pm to 8pm to ensure consistency.
- 1.3 It has also been identified that there are a number of locations, close to the City Centre or District Centres, where uncontrolled parking is still available. While there is no doubt that these valuable parking opportunities should remain, it is considered that there is a need to exercise greater parking control in order to ensure that their value and convenience is enjoyed by the greatest number of people. These areas are identified in appendix 2.
- 1.4 It is proposed that 'Pay and Display' parking is introduced in these areas, with permits being available for purchase by residents, to maximize parking opportunities, as was successfully achieved when such restrictions were introduced in the City Centre. These proposed changes would require the introduction of a Traffic Regulation Order which will take time to introduce. It is recommended that these additional charges will be implemented as quickly as possible.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

2. None.

Background papers:

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List of appendices:

Appendix 1 Implications Appendix 2

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

- 1.1 It is anticipated that the increases to existing tariffs, including the changes to operating hours on the surface car parks, will increase income by approximately £190,000 in a full year.
- 1.2 It is anticipated that the introduction of new 'Pay and Display' areas will generate approximately £167,000 in additional income, in a full year.

Legal

2. The power to make Traffic Regulation Orders derives from the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended, and powers to vary parking charges by notice, either on or off-street, are contained in Sections 35C and 46A of that Act.

Personnel

3. None.

Equalities impact

4. Blue badge holders will continue to enjoy 3 hours free car parking on Council car parks, as they have done previously and will be exempt from all charges in on-street 'Pay and Display' areas.

Corporate Priorities

5.