

PLANNING AND TRANSPORT INDIVIDUAL CABINET MEMBER MEETING 12 MARCH 2008

Report of the Assistant Director, Highways and Transport

PROPOSED PAY AND DISPLAY PARKING – GREEN LANE

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Requests have been received, from business in the Green Lane area, for the introduction of pay and display parking on Green Lane. The introduction of pay and display parking would enable a greater number of people to park in this popular location and gain access to nearby shops and other premises. The pay and display parking would replace the majority of the area currently reserved exclusively for blue badge holder parking. 2 spaces would remain exclusively for blue badge holders and they would be able to park free of charge in the newly created pay and display area, as is the case with all on street pay and display areas.
- 1.2 The changes would be carried out by progressing a Traffic Regulation Order, including formal consultation and advertisement of those proposals in accordance with the Council's procedures.

RECOMMENDATION

2. To authorise officers to pursue the introduction of some pay and display parking on Green Lane as a replacement for the majority of the area currently reserved for blue badge holder parking.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

3. Introduction of pay and display parking would enable a greater number of people to parking in this location and this would help improve footfall in an area that has been affected by the opening of the enlarged Westfield Shopping Centre. The retention of 2 blue badge holders parking bays will ensure that those with mobility difficulties still enjoy some priority parking in the area.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 Green Lane, at its northern end, between its junctions with St Peters Church Yard and Victoria Street, is a cul-de-sac providing essential access to properties fronting and abutting Green Lane. Parking provision on this section of road is currently restricted to blue badge holders only.

- 4.2 Business representatives, in discussion with the Council, including at public forum's, have recently raised concerns that the current parking arrangements are too restrictive and have stated that opening access to parking for all users could help improve footfall in an area they believe is affected by the opening of the enlarged Westfield Shopping Centre.
- 4.3 The introduction of pay and display parking in this location would enable, subject to payment of the appropriate charge and subject to a maximum stay of 2 hours between the hours of 8am and 8pm, any vehicle driver to park should free space be available. This has the potential to ensure that the parking area is used to its maximum advantage at all times.
- 4.4 The introduction of pay and display would have a potential impact on blue badge holders. Although 2 parking bays will continue to be reserved for blue badge holders and they will continue to enjoy free parking in this location, although there would be more competition for the available space. This area is already heavily parked at peak periods. The maximum length of stay for those paying to park, being 2 hours, would ensure regular turnover of parked vehicles.

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Background papers:	None
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 – Implications
	Appendix 2 – Location Plan and Proposals

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The cost to introduce pay and display parking would be approximately £7,500. It is difficult to predict the level of income likely to be generated by the introduction of parking charges because of the unique nature of the current arrangements but it is likely to be no less than £10,000 per annum.

Legal

2 There are no legal implications arising directly from this report. A Traffic Regulation Order will be required in order to introduce the proposed changes. Such an Order can only be introduced following a defined legal process which will include formal advertisement and consultation.

Personnel

3. There are no personnel implications.

Equalities impact

4 As stated within the report

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

5. The proposal comes under the Council's Objective of **creating a 21st Century city centre.**