

# Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

2 February 2021

## Off-Street Parking Proposals Response to Consultation

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendations

**2.1. Following consultation as set out in section 8.0, Cabinet approves the increase in car parking charges as set out in sections 5.1 of this report.**

**2.2. Cabinet approves some further minor amendments to the Parking Order to provide further clarification on details relating to the use of the Council's car parks as set out in 5.2 of this report.**

**2.3. That the Director of Growth and Place be authorised to give appropriate notice of any revised charges or changes as set out within this report pursuant to the Off-street Parking Places (Consolidation) Order 2020 and the Road Traffic Act 1984.**

### 3. Background

3.1. At its meeting on 8th December 2020, Cabinet resolved to consult on the proposed increase to parking charges from April 2021 along with; some minor increases in season tickets, the introduction of a part-time season ticket and minor amendments to the Parking Order.

3.2. It was approved that any amendments would come into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021 subject to the consultation response.

3.2 The consultation has now taken place with the general public and stakeholder organisations (see Appendix 1). The closing date for receipt of responses was Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

3.3 One response has been received. The response stated that there were no comments or objections to the proposals.

#### **4. Outcomes to be Achieved**

- 4.1 To ensure Chichester District parking charges remain competitive with neighbouring centres leaving our business centres in a strong position and do not cause unacceptable parking deflection into residential areas.
- 4.2 The proposed charges assist with delivering the objectives of both; assisting with capacity issues in the higher demand car parks and helping to cover administration and maintenance costs of each car park.
- 4.3 An updated Parking Order is required to ensure that the legal basis for issuing Penalty Charge Notices is correct.

#### **5. Proposal**

- 5.1. Having considered the consultation responses it is proposed that parking charges in car parks are increased by the current Bank of England target rate of inflation in the council's five year financial model for 2021/2022 (2%) with some variations / decreases due to roundings and demand. In addition, a small increase will be applied to season tickets, with part-time season tickets to be introduced on a trial basis for X roving customers.
- 5.2. In addition, the Parking Order will be amended to clarify the position relating to refunded parking charges; to reflect amendments concerning payment methods accepted in car parks and to clarify designation of the type and nature of car parks.
- 5.3. The updated Fees and Charges Policy as agreed at Cabinet in December 2020 sets out that all discretionary fees and charges will be reviewed annually by service managers, with the default assumption that all fees and charges will be increased by the rate of inflation as determined by the Director of Corporate Services and agreed in the Financial Strategy. Therefore any amendments to parking charges will only be considered by Cabinet in the future where there is a deviation away from the adopted policy.

#### **6. Alternatives Considered**

- 6.1 A series of options were considered by the Chichester District Parking Forum and the consultation on the proposed charges taken to Cabinet in November 2020 has been undertaken and considered as part of this report.

#### **7. Resource and Legal Implications**

- 7.1. To implement changes to charges and car parks there will be minor costs associated with the provision of new signs and necessary adjustments to

the machine tariffs as well as changes to back office software; these costs are contained within the service's revenue budget.

- 7.2. The five year financial strategy assumes that all income from fees and charges are increased in line with the Charges Policy. Failure to achieve the anticipated increase would have an impact on the financial strategy.
- 7.3. The Parking Order will require updating once the charges and amendments are agreed.

## 8. Consultation

- 8.1. The proposed changes to parking charges were discussed by the Parking Forum meeting of 3 September 2020 and consideration has been given at a number of stages in the process to consider the impact of the pandemic.
- 8.2. Cabinet considered the proposed parking charges at its meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> November. The decision made at that meeting was then subject to call in at Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 17<sup>th</sup> November and was referred back to Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020. Cabinet upheld the decision made on 3<sup>rd</sup> November to progress to the public consultation on the proposals.
- 8.3. Consultation has been undertaken with the stakeholder organisations listed in Appendix 1. Notices were also placed in all car parks, on CDC's website, on social media and in the local press. One response was received to the consultation which stated that there were no comments or objections to the proposals.

## 9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1. The impact of the amended charges will be closely monitored by the Parking Services team. Any increase in charges could cause people to park within neighbouring residential areas and reduce the economic effectiveness of the localities they serve. The modest nature of the increases mitigates this and reduces these risks.

## 10. Other Implications

	Yes	No
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		X
<b>Climate Change and Biodiversity</b> Congestion due to drivers queuing to locate a parking space can have an impact on air quality. When parking charges are set this can assist with encouraging alternative forms of transport or parking in less congested areas.	X	
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b>		X
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b>		X

<b>General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)</b>		X
<b>Health and Wellbeing</b>		X
<b>Other</b>		

## **11. Appendices**

11.1 Appendix 1 - List of organisations contacted as part of consultation

## **12. Background Papers**

None