

Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

10 January 2017

Off-Street Parking Charges – Consultation Response

1. Contacts

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2. Recommendation

- 2.1. That, following consideration of the representations made in respect of the proposal to amend the Chichester District Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) Order 2012, the Chichester District Council (Off Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) (Variation No. 1) Order 2017 to include reference to the charges detailed in paragraph 5 below, such changes to come into effect from 1 April 2017.
- 2.2. That the Head of Commercial Services be authorised to give appropriate notice of any revised charges pursuant to the Off-Street Parking Places (Consolidation) Order 2015 and the Road Traffic Act 1984.

3. Background

- 3.1. At its meeting on 6 December 2016 the Cabinet resolved:
 - (a) “That the Cabinet agrees that the consultation responses to the charges which it approved at its meeting on 1 November 2016 be brought back for consideration at its meeting on 10 January 2017”.
- 3.2. Consultation has now taken place with the general public and appropriate organisations (see Appendix 1). The closing date for receipt of responses was Monday 12 December 2016.
- 3.3. Eighteen responses were received. This represents a very small percentage of the potential customer base (estimated average of 4,500 users per day) of Chichester District Council’s car parks. A summary of the responses is included at Appendix 2.
- 3.4. Many local authorities and private companies charge customers for use of car parks in the evening – with some requiring payment for 24 hours (see Appendix 3). The charging hours in place within Chichester District were set a number of years ago and the ‘offer’ within Chichester city has

changed quite significantly since these hours were first set. The resultant effect of the increased use of car parks in the evening has been an increase in wear and tear in the car parks. In addition to this, our policy has always been that the user pays, and the proposal to introduce evening charges is one way to ensure that the cost of the service is covered by the users. Currently the daytime users cover the cost of the lights, CCTV and evening wear and tear in the car parks which is inequitable.

4. Outcomes to be Achieved

4.1. As previously reported to the Cabinet in November 2016.

5. Proposal

5.1. That the charges as considered and discussed at the Cabinet in November be implemented from 1 April 2017. For ease of reference these are set out below:

- (a) To extend the hours of charging in New Park Road and Northgate car parks from 6.00pm Monday to Saturday to 8.00pm Monday to Saturday.
- (b) To increase the cost of a season ticket for Basin Road, Cattle Market and Northgate Car park from £47 per month (£46 per month when purchased online or £506.00 per annum where 12 months are provided for the price of 11), to £50.00 per month (£49 per month when purchased online, £539.00 per month when 12 months are provided for the price of 11).
- (c) To introduce a new season ticket for the Avenue de Chartres car park only, at a price of £44.00 per month (£43 per month when purchased online, or £473 per annum when 12 months are purchased for the price of 11).
- (d) To increase the cost of Specific Season Tickets (in Market Avenue, Market Road and Orchard Street) from £52 per month (£51 per month when purchased online or £561.00 per annum where 12 months are provided for the price of 11), to £75 per month (£74 per month when purchased online or £814.00 per annum (12 months for the price of 11)
- (e) To increase the price of a season ticket in Bosham car park from £15.00 per month to £16.50 per month.
- (f) To increase the price of a season ticket in Marine Drive, East Wittering, Pound Street, Petworth, Grange Road, Midhurst, Post Office, Midhurst, North Street, Midhurst, East Beach, Selsey and East Street, Selsey from £12.50 per month to £14.00 per month.

6. Alternatives Considered

6.1 A series of options were considered by the Parking Forum.

- 6.2 A fixed rate after 6pm has been suggested as an alternative option. Whilst this is a solution for customers seeking to find the correct change, this proposal was not advertised and would mean that some customers using the car parks would be required to pay more to park than that which was advertised for consultation. This means that we could not implement this from 1 April 2017.
- 6.3 Another alternative option is to extend evening charges to all car parks or to increase the tariff in all city car parks during the day instead. Again, these options were not advertised and could therefore not be implemented for April 2017. These options would also require discussion with West Sussex County Council for consideration of any potential impact on the highway.

7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1. There will be minor costs associated with new signage and effecting 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 Parking Order will require amendment once the charges are agreed.

8. Consultation

- 8.1. The proposed changes to parking charges are supported by the Chichester District Parking Forum meeting on 6 September 2016 and were considered by the Commercial Board on 13 June 2016.
- 8.2. Consultation has been undertaken with the organisations listed in Appendix 1. Of the responses received, two had no objection, one was conditionally in favour of the proposals and all other responses were objecting to the proposals. Concerns expressed included the fact that the proposal would have a negative impact on Theatre and New Park customers and that the proposal would impact more heavily on older customers and those on low incomes.
- 8.3. The proposal is a trial and will be closely monitored, the results of which will be brought back to the Cabinet for consideration.

9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

- 9.1. As previously reported in the 1 November 2016 report to the Cabinet the Franklin Place area is covered by J zone which is enforceable until 9.00 pm. Introducing charges until 8.00 pm in Northgate car park would therefore have little or no impact on parking for residents. Customers for the Theatre would only need to pay for up to one hour (70p) to cover their visit.
- 9.2. If there are any customers who do not wish to pay to park until 8pm they have other car park options close by which they could use (usage levels would be monitored if this is introduced).

- 9.3. Some short stay limited bays (max 20 minutes) will be introduced at the New Park Road car park to enable drivers to collect take-away food from the local take-away outlets. New parking payment machines and additional payment options are being introduced within the city car parks over the coming months and these will assist with the payment of charges.
- 9.4. By introducing the charges to the two car parks first this provides an opportunity for a review of any impact on the service as a result of any potential deflection and allows for customers to take a short walk (within five minutes to other alternative car parks) where evening charges are not in place, should they wish to do so.

10. Other Implications

Crime and Disorder	None
Climate Change	None
Human Rights and Equality Impact Whilst there is no legislative requirement to provide designated disabled bays free of charge, this has been the case within the District for a number of years. Consultation responses have suggested that the proposal would impact more heavily on older customers and those on low incomes. However, it is considered that the charges as proposed are reasonable and reflective of the local area.	None
Safeguarding and Early Help	None
Other Such investments as may be made shall be done so ethically in a manner that is consistent with other Council policies, values and practices, and does not inadvertently result in promoting, supporting or delivering outcomes that the Council would not wish to occur.	None

11. Appendices

11.1 Appendix 1 – List of Organisations contacted as part of consultation

11.2 Appendix 2 – Responses from consultation

11.3 Appendix 3 – Evening Charges elsewhere

12. Background Papers

12.1 None