

## Record of Officer Decision

### Proposal to vary the off street parking charges as of 1 November 2017

#### Decision Taker and Date Decision Taken:

Chief Finance Officer on 29 September 2017 in consultation with the Chief Executive and Mayor

#### Summary of Matter or Issue Requiring Decision:

The proposed charges would see the tariff remain consistent across all Council operated car parks with no seasonal Summer or Winter tariffs being implemented.

#### The following officers of the Council, individuals and organisations were consulted:-

Kevin Mowat, Executive Head of Business Services  
Councillor Robert Excell, Executive Lead for Community Services  
Mayor's Executive Group  
Martin Phillips, Chief Accountant

#### The following background papers were used in considering the issue

Pay and display income figures for previous two years, and the current Summer and Winter tariffs.

#### Decision Taken:

"Borough of Torbay (Off Street Parking Places) Order No3 2017"

Parking charges in Torbay Councils off street parking places to be varied from 1 November 2017 as follows:

<u>Parking Period</u>	<u>Summer charge</u>	<u>Winter charge</u>	<u>proposed charge</u>
Up to 30 minutes	£1.00	50p	60p
Up to 1 hour	£1.50	£1.00	£1.30
Up to 1.5 hours	£2.00	£1.50	£2.00
Up to 2 hours	£2.50	£2.00	£2.50
Up to 3 hours	£4.00	n/a	£3.50
Up to 4 hours	£4.50	£3.00	£4.00
Up to 5 hours	£5.50	n/a	£5.50
Up to 6 hours	n/a	n/a	£6.50
Up to 24 hours	£10.00	£5.00	£8.00
Overnight	£2.50 (10pm to 8am)	£3.50 (10pm to 8am)	£3.00 (6pm to 8am)

Summer charges currently operate from 21 March to 30 October, Winter charges operate from 31 October to 20 March (dates inclusive). Proposed charges would be see a fixed annual charge in place with no seasonal changes to the tariffs.

That the Council will continue to work with businesses and residents to incentivise increased footfall within the town centres where requested to do so for specific events such as Christmas late night shopping.

## **Summary of Reason(s) for Decision Taken:**

The Council has adopted a lower rate Winter tariff since November 2013, these proposals would see the parking charges remain consistent throughout both the Summer and Winter seasons in all of the Torbay Council operated car parks. Neighbouring authorities no longer impose seasonal charges. The proposed changes are in line with the Council's approved Parking Strategy.

The Council also now has a reduced rate annual car park permit in place that equates to being able to park in the car parks for £1 a day for regular users. There have been high sales for this type of permit as well as the off-peak permit that is valid in the car parks between 3pm and 10am each day.

The reintroduction of the earlier start time for the overnight parking charge will assist the night time economy across the bay.

By introducing a yearly parking charge the Council would also reduce its costs on backboard overlays as well as staff costs on having to upload new tariffs to all of the pay machines, these changes from the reduced winter tariff to the summer tariff also create a reputational damage to the Council each Spring due to the perceived increase in charges by the public. The proposed charges should also provide greater clarity to our customers with a consistent year round tariff.

## **Summary of Alternatives or Options considered and rejected and Background Papers:**

Leave the Winter tariff unchanged and accept the risk that the annual income may well fall significantly short of the target and consequently place further pressure on the Council's revenue budget.

## **Details of any conflict of interest and dispensation granted to the Officer taking the decision or by any Member of the Council in delegating responsibility for any specific express delegation:**

None

## **Implementation:**

The new charges will come into force from 1 November 2017.

A copy of this decision and any supporting documentation considered by the Officer taking this decision may also be available for inspection by the public at the Council's offices or posted upon payment of any copying and postage charges. Any member of the public wishing to take up either of these options is asked to please ring (01803) 207087 or email [governance.support@torbay.gov.uk](mailto:governance.support@torbay.gov.uk)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 29 September 2017  
Chief Finance Officer