



Meeting: Transport Working Party

Date: 31st January 2013

Wards Affected: All

Report Title: Parking Charges Review 2012/13

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1. Purpose

- 1.1 To review the current parking tariffs both in on and off street areas to encompass feedback from stakeholders and present a more balanced tariff to meet the needs of Torbay for both the winter and summer economies.

2. Proposed Decision

- 2.1 To progress the actions as recommended in option 2 of the report.

3. Action Needed

- 3.1 New tariffs will need to be written and purchased from the parking equipment suppliers.
- 3.2 New Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) will need to be written and advertised in the local press following the statutory advertising periods of 21 days to receive objections with the objections reported back to the Transport Working Party.

4. Summary

- 4.1 During 2012 there were a number of meetings held with stakeholders in relation to parking issues and parking charges were identified as a concern, in particular to traders who were struggling through the recent economic downturn.
- 4.2 Members recognized the importance of parking charges to the local economy and promised a review into parking charges with a hope to alter charges to offer cheaper parking charges in particular during the winter months when trade particular suffers through the lack of visitors.
- 4.3 Officers were asked to review all the tariffs of the off street car parks and on street pay and display areas with a report to Members with recommendations.
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Supporting Information

5. Position

- 5.1 Parking charges remains a concern to local stakeholders and the review is designed to address these concerns by analysis of the data and recommendations to change charges based on a cost neutral basis to the parking income budget.

6. Possibilities and Options

- 6.1 Keep parking charges and tariffs unchanged.
- 6.2 Introduce a new charging structure as stated in option 2, section 5 of the report
- 6.3 Reduce parking charges with a possible £560,000 impact on the parking budget see option 3, section 6 of the report, Officers can not recommend this option due to the impact on the Councils budget.

7. Preferred Solution/Option

- 7.1 Introduce a new charging structure at cost neutral to the Council's budget and adopt option 2 of the report.

8. Consultation

- 8.1 There have been a number of meetings with stakeholders where Officers and Members including the Mayor were present which identified the need for the review. The main stakeholders are the Town Centres Company, Chamber of Trade and other trader groups.

9. Risks

- 9.1 Any changes to the parking tariff could put at risk the current income received through parking charges as it may cause a change in customer behaviour. It is hoped however the new structure will encourage the public to stay longer in the Town Centres and be more customer focused.

Appendices:

Appendix 1: Parking Charges Review 2012/13

Additional Information:

N/A

Documents available in Members' Rooms:

N/A

Background Papers:

N/A