

To: INFRASTRUCTURE, LAND AND ENVIRONMENT POLICY BOARD

On: 29 AUGUST 2018

Report by: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT & INFRASTRUCTURE

**Heading: REVIEW OF CAR PARKING PROVISION AND CHARGES – RESIDENTS
& BUSINESS PARKING PERMITS IN PAISLEY AND JOHNSTONE &
RENFREW**

1. Summary

- 1.1 This report provides a progress update and final position on the Review of Car Parking Provision and Charges, across Renfrewshire, specifically providing an update on Residents and Business Parking Permits in Paisley, Renfrew & Johnstone. There is a separate report at item 8a to be considered by this Policy Board which relates to the proposed introduction of Car Parking charges for on and off street parking in Renfrew and Johnstone.
- 1.2 The decisions approved by the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board (ILE) of 8th November 2017 and 30th May 2018 have been progressed. The report also addresses the Motion to Council in December 2017 which agreed to engage and consult with communities and that the implementation of parking charges would only be introduced if the consensus was that there would be benefit to the local community.
- 1.3 Overall, the feedback received from the public engagement In June 2018, showed agreement with many of the key findings and proposals as set out in the Impact Assessment. The areas of agreement being that there are parking problems and pressures around key locations and residential streets in Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.
- 1.3 The Johnstone community were in overall agreement with the findings of the Impact Assessment. However, the community, and in particular the business community, were opposed to the introduction of parking charges and changes to the current

parking management arrangements. In Renfrew, the community and businesses broadly agreed with the Impact Assessment findings and proposals, with a lower number of responses received.

- 1.6 For resident & business parking permits the majority of respondents were either against the introduction of a resident & business parking permit scheme or that the parking permit scheme should be administered free of charge.
- 1.7 The report at section 5 sets out options for Paisley to consider to take forward the deferred decision to introduce a charge for resident & business parking permit scheme. Within section 6, the report sets out options for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres to consider for a resident & business parking permits scheme and cost recovery charges.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended the Infrastructure, Land & Environment Policy Board:

- 2.1 Notes the feedback received from the public engagement exercise into the findings of the Impact Assessment for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.
- 2.2 Considers implementing option 1 or 2 as set out in paragraphs 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 of this report in relation to administrative charges applied to resident & business parking permits in Paisley Town Centre.
- 2.3 Considers implementing option 1, 2 or 3 as set out in paragraphs 6.2 to 6.4 of this report on the introduction of resident & business parking permits for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres and associate administrative charges.

3. Background

- 3.1 There have been two previous reports considered and agreed by the ILE Policy Board on the Review of Car Parking Charges across Renfrewshire. These reports were considered on 8th of November 2017, and 30th of May 2018. A summary of these Policy Board report findings and decisions of these meetings is set out in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 respectively to this report.
- 3.2 On the 8th of November 2017 members will be aware that amongst the ILE Policy Board decisions, it was agreed to undertake an Impact Assessment as part of introduction of parking charges in Johnstone & Renfrew town centres. Also, to introduce an annual charge for residents parking permits, to recover costs in Paisley town centre, with the application of a fee suspended until a thorough review was carried out on all parking permits.

- 3.3 On the 30th of May 2018, members will be aware that the ILE Policy Board considered and agreed the Impact Assessment findings, that there are specific pressures on town centre parking, within Johnstone & Renfrew. It was also agreed that the findings of the Impact Assessment be shared with the key stakeholders and the wider public of Johnstone & Renfrew, for their views and comments.

4 Impact Assessment Findings – Public Engagement June 2018

- 4.1 On the 8th of June the Impact Assessment findings and public questionnaire were posted on the Council's "have your say" section of the website and remained open until the 30th June, allowing residents to read the reports and provide their view. All stakeholders involved in the Impact Assessment were also provided with a copy of the Impact Assessment and asked to provide their view and comments. Two public engagement sessions were organised for the wider public to attend and speak with officers to gain a greater understanding and have their questions answered regarding the proposed parking provision and charges. These sessions took place in Johnstone Town Hall on Monday 25th June 1pm to 8pm and at Renfrew Leisure Centre Thursday 28th June 1pm - 8pm. It is estimated around 200 people attended the sessions, with Johnstone being busier than Renfrew. There were 717 online responses received to the questions and views sought, of which 495 people provided an answer to at least one question.
- 4.2 The feedback received through the engagement exercise demonstrated broad agreement with Impact Assessment findings, that there are parking pressures across and specific to Johnstone & Renfrew town centres. In particular, Johnstone did not want the parking charges to be introduced. In Renfrew, with a smaller number of respondents, no particular view was voiced in favour or against the introduction of charges. Johnstone were also against enhanced enforcement as they felt this would also have a negative impact on Johnstone town centre. Johnstone felt that the parking charge proposals or changes to the current arrangements would impact negatively on local business.
- 4.3 In Johnstone, respondents generally agreed with the Impact Assessment findings that there are town centre specific parking problems. In particular for the Church Street car park (Town Hall) being full and impacting on surrounding streets, and car parking in the streets surrounding the train station creating issues for residents through poor and inappropriate parking behaviours. An evenly split view was held on the availability of car parking spaces in Johnstone town centre during the lunch time period, which differed from the Impact Assessment findings, stating there were no spaces.
- 4.4 In Renfrew, the respondents agreed in the main with finding of the Impact Assessment, that there is a high volume of residential parking, and of parked cars within surrounding street within the town centre.
- 4.5 There were split views on the medium-term parking control intervention proposals within the Impact Assessment findings to address the parking problems and concerns

across and within both town centres. More respondents (51%) were positive about the introduction of parking charges with a grace period before charging than those who were against the introduction of parking charges (39%).

- 4.6 For resident & business parking permits the majority of respondents were either against the introduction of a resident & business permit scheme or that the parking permit scheme should be administered free of charge.

5. **Residents & Business Parking Permit Scheme, Paisley Town Centre – Options for Considerations**

- 5.1 This paragraph of the report considers options to charge an administrative fee for resident & business parking permits for Paisley.

- 5.2 In Paisley town centre residents & business currently require a parking permit. The parking permit scheme is currently administered free of charge to residents & businesses. The cost to the Council is around £50,000 per annum to administer. The introduction of a charge for Paisley had been deferred to consider the findings and feedback of the Impact Assessment and public engagement for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres. On the basis of the information received back, residents and businesses would be opposed to a parking permit charge in Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.

5.2.1 **Option - 1 The Council continues to administer Paisley's Resident & Business Parking Permit Scheme free of charge.**

This option continues to administer the Paisley parking permit scheme for residents & businesses free of charge. There is a cost to the Council to administer the parking permit scheme of £50,000 per annum and this option reduces the planned income received by the Council as set out in the ILE Policy Board report of 8th November 2017 by £50,000 per annum.

5.2.2 **Option 2 - Introduction of an administrative charge for Paisley's Resident & Business Parking Permit Scheme**

The option introduces a charge for the administration of the annual Paisley parking permit scheme. It is proposed this charge is £20.00 per annum, aligned with the administration fee levied for the administration of the national blue badge scheme. This £20 per annum administrative charge would generate income of around £20,000 per annum. This would result in the administration of the Paisley residents & business parking permit scheme costing the Council a net £30,000 to administer rather than the current £50,000 per annum, and is £30,000 less income than the £50,000 per annum income set out in the ILE Policy Board report of November 2017.

6. **Resident & Business Parking Permits for Johnstone & Renfrew Town Centres.**

6.1 This paragraph of the report considers options to introduce a resident & business parking permits scheme for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres. The options also include consideration of an annual administrative charge for resident & business parking permits.

6.2 **Option 1 - No Resident & Business Parking Permit Scheme is introduced in Johnstone & Renfrew Town Centre.**

6.2.1 This option continues the current parking arrangements in Johnstone & Renfrew town centres where residents can park without restrictions in off street car parks and the majority of residential streets.

6.2.2 This option does not support addressing the resident parking problems identified in Johnstone & Renfrew town centres. It has no direct financial implications for the Council as there are no additional costs for administration.

6.3 **Option 2 - Introduction of a Resident & Business Parking Permit Scheme for Johnstone & Renfrew Town Centres – Free of Charge**

6.3.1 This option proposes the introduction of a free resident & business parking permit scheme for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.

6.3.2 The resident & business parking locations would require to be taken forward through detailed design. This would require areas to be marked through lines and signs to enable residents to park in proximity to their property. The scheme would be administered by the Council issuing permits and undertaking enforcement activities. The establishment of a parking permit scheme will address some of the findings set out in the Impact Assessment. It would allow enforcement officers to issue fines to non-residents parked within resident parking bays.

6.3.3 There would be a cost to the Council to establish such a resident & business parking permit scheme and one-off costs to create the associated traffic regulation orders within both town centres. There would also be ongoing costs to the Council to administer the parking permit scheme and undertake additional enforcement activities. It is unknown how many residents or businesses would take up the parking permit scheme. The cost to the Council is estimated at around £50.00 per parking permit, per annum. This would therefore cost the Council an additional £50,000 per annum to administer a new residents & business parking permit scheme across Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.

6.4 Option 3 - Introduction of Administration Charge for Resident & Business Parking Permit in Johnstone & Renfrew Town Centres

- 6.4.1 That a resident & business parking permit scheme is introduced for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres, with an administrative charge of £20.00 per annum for the issue of a resident & business parking permit, consistent with Option 2 in paragraph 6.2.2 for the Paisley parking permit scheme.
- 6.4.2 Based on an estimated uptake by 1000 residents and businesses, this £20 per annum administrative charge would generate income of around £20,000 per annum for the Council. However, the true cost to administer the parking permit scheme could cost the Council £50,000 per annum. This administrative charge would result in the costs to administer being higher than the income generated with a net estimated cost to the Council of £30,000 per annum.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – The financial impacts of the options for consideration are set out at sections 5 and 6 within the report.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – None
3. **Community Planning** – None
4. **Legal** - None
5. **Property/Assets** - None
6. **Information Technology** - None
7. **Equality & Human Rights** - The Recommendations contained within this report have been assessed in relation to their impact on equalities and human rights. No negative impacts on equality groups or potential for infringement of individuals' human rights have been identified arising from the recommendations contained in the report. If required following implementation, the actual impact of the recommendations and the mitigating actions will be reviewed and monitored, and the results of the assessment will be published on the Council's website.
8. **Health & Safety** – None
9. **Procurement** – None
10. **Risk** – None
11. **Privacy Impact** – None

12. CoSLA Policy Position – None

List of Background Papers -

Author: Director of Environment & Infrastructure

Infrastructure Land & Environment Policy Board – 8th November 2017
Review of Car Parking Provision and Charges, Across Renfrewshire

Summary

- 1.1 This report sets out proposals to increase the parking tariffs in Paisley Town Centre, invest in modern parking meters across Renfrewshire, introduce an annual charge for residents parking permits in Paisley and to widen out the charges for Council owned on and off-street parking for Johnstone & Renfrew town centres.
- 1.2 The recommendations agreed by the board are set out below:
 - (a) That the increase of parking tariffs in Paisley, by 10p for 30 minutes parking up to approximately 50p for four hours parking, be approved;
 - (b) That the widening out of charges for Council-owned on and off-street parking to include Renfrew and Johnstone, streamlining the cost of Town Centre parking for Renfrewshire residents, be approved;
 - (c) That investment in a modern parking meter supply be approved, to facilitate the introduction of meters that can accept other methods of payment including contactless payment;
 - (d) That an impact assessment of the approved parking scheme proposals for Johnstone and Renfrew be carried out, over a three-month period, as part of the implementation of the approved parking and charges changes;
 - (e) That the introduction of an annual charge for residents parking permits, to recover costs for all areas within the Pay and Display parking zones in Paisley, be approved and that it be agreed to suspend the application of a fee until a thorough review was carried out on all parking permits (residents and businesses) and a subsequent report was brought to the next appropriate Board; and
 - (f) That it be agreed to continue to charge for parking in Pay and Display for on and off-street zones Monday to Friday only, with Saturday and Sunday remaining free.
- 1.3 The decisions agreed by the Policy Board on 8th November 2017 would improve parking management through interventions & controls, supported by £1.1million investment in modern technology. The 2-year implementation timescale (by 2019/2020) for Johnstone & Renfrew to allow for planned enablement works and preparation of any required Traffic Regulation Orders.

Infrastructure Land & environment Policy Board – 30th May 2018
Review of Car Parking Provision and Charges, Across Renfrewshire Follow Up Report

Impact Assessment Findings

1. Summary

1.1 The Impact Assessment provided detailed & actual baseline data, based on site observations and analysis of parking patterns and behaviours, detailed parking surveys and stakeholder engagement with business and communities, mainly through face to face interviews.

1.2 The Impact Assessment findings evidenced, from both stakeholder engagement with communities and parking surveys, that there are specific pressures on town centre parking, within both Johnstone & Renfrew. A summary of the key findings of the Impact Assessment for Johnstone & Renfrew are detailed below:

- A high percentage of long stay parking (over 5 hours) in Council car parks by commuters.
- Parking issues that affect town accessibility are evident within both Johnstone & Renfrew.
- Johnstone, specific parking pressures are:
 - Difficulties parking at lunch time, within the town centre.
 - Large volumes of cars & long stay parking (over 5 hours), again often commuters, and issues of parking behaviours at the railway station and surrounding residential streets.
 - Parking behaviours within the Town Hall car park and surrounding residential streets.
- Renfrew, specific parking pressures are:
 - High level of residential parking.
 - High Street car park has a high percentage of long stay parking (over 5 hours), often by those commuting by public transport predominantly to the new Queen Elizabeth University Hospital and to Glasgow City Centre.
 - Town centre streets having parking problems due to the large volumes of parked cars, by residents and commuters.

1.3 In addition to the above detailed key findings, the Impact Assessment highlighted some other issues, both from stakeholder dialogue and onsite observations, that the Council had planned to address through early enabling works. In particular:

- The need for improved enforcement, to address high levels of inappropriate parking behaviours. This will include a review of existing Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs).
- Improved signage and way finding for town centre car parks.

- Infrastructure improvements and lining to some on and off-street parking locations.
- Infrastructure improvements would be required in some car parks to include facilities & charging points for electric vehicles.

1.4 The Impact Assessment as undertaken for Johnstone & Renfrew has provided detailed data and information which will allow the Council to take informed actions to address parking issues in both town centres, delivering benefits to the communities affected. To address the parking issues across and specific to both Johnstone & Renfrew town centres, identified and informed through the key findings of the Impact Assessment, a tailored & targeted approach to parking interventions & controls is required. The parking interventions & controls could include:

- Addressing both short and long stay parking arrangements.
- Addressing on and off-street parking arrangements.
- A period of free parking both for on and off-street parking, before time limited pay & display parking control charges are applied. This free period varying dependent on location and being a maximum of 1 and / or 2 hours.
- Introduction of residents & business parking permits for both Johnstone & Renfrew town centres, aligned with the residents and business parking permit scheme being proposed for Paisley.

1.5 The recommendation set out in the policy board report and agreed by the Policy Board are set out below:

- (a) That the findings of the impact assessment as carried out into the introduction of parking charges in Johnstone and Renfrew be noted;
- (b) That it be agreed that arrangements be made to share, for their views and comments, the findings of the impact assessment Johnstone and Renfrew with the key stakeholders who had contributed to the process and also the wider public of Johnstone and Renfrew;
- (c) That it be agreed that the key findings of the impact assessment Johnstone and Renfrew would inform any future detailed design principles, as would be tailored to both town centres;
- (d) That it be noted that a further report would be submitted to the next meeting of this Policy Board, to be held on 29 August 2018, following feedback and comments from the key stakeholders and wider public of Johnstone and Renfrew, as referred to in paragraphs 1.7 and 2.2 of the report;
- (e) That it be agreed that consideration of an annual charge for residents and businesses parking permits for Paisley and potentially Johnstone and Renfrew be continued until the further report, referred to in (d) above, was submitted to this Policy Board on 29 August 2018 for consideration; and
- (f) That consideration be given to holding public meetings in both Johnstone and Renfrew to obtain feedback on the proposals.