

To: Infrastructure, Land and Environment Board

On: 8th November 2017

Report by: Director of Environment & Communities

Heading: Review of Car Parking Provision and Charges, Across Renfrewshire

1. Summary

- 1.1 Council controlled on and off street parking is currently only charged for in Paisley, with all other Council owned parking within Renfrewshire provided free of charge.
- 1.2 Pay & Display parking charges in Paisley Town Centre for on and off street Council controlled parking facilities were constrained to Monday to Friday in 2012, with all on and off street Council controlled parking on a Saturday and Sunday currently free. Annual income from Council controlled parking is approximately £800,000 to £850,000 per annum, with on and off street parking charges last subject to increase in 2011/12.
- 1.3 The Council's current parking meters only accept cash payments. In comparison to other local authorities and providers this is outdated, with parking meters available that can accept other methods of payment, including contactless payment. In addition, the parking meters are between 10 and 30 years old, with many approaching end of life. A large percentage of parts are no longer manufactured for the machines, with refurbished and reconditioned parts requiring to be utilised to maintain operation.
- 1.4 Parking permits for residents in Paisley who live within the Pay & Display zones are currently issued free of charge, and this is unusual in comparison with other large urban areas where an annual charge for a resident's parking permit is normal. No residents parking permit scheme is in place outwith the Paisley area.
- 1.5 This report contains proposals to streamline Council owned on and off street parking provision and charges across Renfrewshire, with an objective to increase

usage, generate turnover of parking spaces, be of benefit to High Street shoppers, and subsequently generate increased footfall in Town Centre economies. This includes the review of the current free parking permit scheme for residents within the Pay and Display zones in Paisley.

- 1.6 It also contains proposals to modernise meters to enable both cash and non-cash payment options, whether through credit/debit cards or contactless payment, as has been introduced and explored in other local authorities.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Infrastructure, Land and Environment Policy Board:
- 2.2 Approves the increase of parking tariffs in Paisley, by 10p for 30 minutes parking up to approximately 50p for 4 hours parking.
- 2.3 Approves 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.
- 2.3 To approve investment in a modern parking meter supply, to introduce meters that can accept other methods of payment including contactless payment.
- 2.4 To approve 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.
- 2.5 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.

3. Background

- 3.1 On and off street Council controlled car parking is currently managed and directly provided through Environment & Communities, by both Amenity Services (Roads & Transportation) and Community Safety (Renfrewshire Wardens).
- 3.2 Council controlled on and off street parking is currently only charged for in Paisley, with all other Council owned parking within Renfrewshire provided free of charge

3.3 Pay and Display Parking in Paisley

- 3.3.1 Pay & Display parking charges in Paisley Town Centre for on and off street Council controlled parking facilities were constrained to Monday to Friday in 2012, with all on and off street Council controlled parking on a Saturday and Sunday currently free. On and off street parking charges were last subject to increase in 2011/12,

with annual income from Council controlled parking approximately £800,000 to £850,000.

3.3.2 It is proposed to increase parking tariffs, by 10p for 30 minutes parking up to approximately 50p for 4 hours parking, generating additional income of approximately £90,000 per annum. It is proposed that revised tariffs would be introduced in April 2018, with parking continuing to be free on Saturdays and Sundays.

3.3.2 The Council's current parking meters currently only accept cash payments. In comparison to other authorities and providers this is outdated, with parking meters available that can accept other methods of payment, including contactless payment. In addition, the majority of the parking meters are between 10 and 30 years old, with many approaching end of life. A large percentage of parts are no longer requiring to be manufactured for the machines, with refurbished and reconditioned parts being utilised to maintain operation. It is estimated that to fully replace or upgrade the parking meter supply in Paisley with modern meters capable of taking other payment methods could be approximately £800,000.

3.4 Introduction of Pay and Display charges within the wider Renfrewshire.

3.4.1 The introduction of Pay & Display parking charges for on and off street Council controlled parking facilities in Renfrew and Johnstone, would ensure better management of parking spaces to the benefit of business and visitors. It would ensure a ready availability of short stay parking for shoppers who at present are typically displaced to the edge of the town or park on yellow lines. Johnstone and Renfrew albeit smaller Town Centres, are busy and vibrant.

3.4.2 In both towns, parking supply close to the retail core is exceeded for much of the day, partly due to long stay parking. This is despite short lengths of limited waiting in both Renfrew (Hairst St) and Johnstone (behind Ludovic Square). Limited waiting parking restrictions are very difficult to enforce.

3.4.3 There is potential to boost effective parking supply and support local businesses by implementing strategies which displace longer stay parking to the edges of the town centres and encourage short stay parking in the core. Pay and Display parking offers the most effective management mechanism to achieve this.

3.4.4 The first step to progress Pay and Display proposals involves a detailed survey of on street and off street parking supply to identify the numbers of spaces that would be subject to pay and display. If the proposal is approved to proceed with Pay and Display, detailed plans with associated traffic orders would require to be prepared and consulted on, with this process typically taking up to 18 - 24 months. Implementation would follow through delineation of parking bays on street, erection of signage and installation of pay and display machines, which were able to take both cash and card/contactless payment.

3.4.5 Based on introducing the same tariffs as being proposed for Paisley Zone 2, this proposal could generate additional net income of an estimated £260,000 per annum, with a one off investment required for the purchase of parking meters, and the costs associated with lineage and roads signs of approximately £300,000. This is based on an estimated number of meters, which will be finalised once the number of on and off street spaces are identified. Again, it is proposed that parking would be free Saturdays and Sundays, with the revised parking scheme being ready to implement in 2019.

3.5 Residents Parking Permits

3.5.1 Parking permits for residents in Paisley who live within the Pay & Display zones are issued free of charge, and have been since the residents parking scheme was originally introduced in the late 1990's, with approximately 1,000 permits issues per annum. This is unusual in comparison with other large urban areas where an annual charge for a resident's parking permit is normal. Access to a parking space immediately outside a house adds value to the property and offers convenience to residents.

3.5.2 Where other local authorities charge for parking permits, the annual charge ranges from £45 to £190 per annum (excluding Glasgow and Edinburgh).

3.5.3 It currently costs the Council approximately £50,000 per annum to manage and administer the residents parking scheme, and it is proposed to introduce an annual charge of £50 for a residents parking permit to recover the costs of this scheme. The scheme would be introduced in April 2018.

3.5.4 If Pay & Display charges are widened out to Renfrew and Johnstone as detailed above, it is proposed that the parking permit scheme could also be implemented in these Town Centres at the same time.

Implications of the Report

1. **Financial** – A one off Capital investment is required of approximately £1.1million, with this being funded from the Council's Service Modernisation and Reform Fund. Additional Income of approximately £400,000 per annum, would be generated from the changes as detailed in the report.
2. **HR & Organisational Development** – none
3. **Community Planning** – none
4. **Legal** – none
5. **Property/Assets** – none

6. **Information Technology** – Consultation will be required with ICT on the contactless technology for the parking meters.
 7. **Equality & Human** – none
 8. **Health & Safety** – none
 9. **Procurement** – A significant procurement exercise will be required for the procuring of the parking meters
 10. **Risk** – none
 11. **Privacy Impact** – none
 12. **Cosla Policy Position** – none
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List of Background Papers

- (a) Current Parking Tariffs in Paisley Residents
- (b) Residents Parking Permit Charges in other Local Authorities

The foregoing background papers will be retained within the Environment & Communities department for inspection by the public for the prescribed period of four years from the date of the meeting. The contact officer within the service is Debbie Farrell, Finance Business Partner, x7536. Email debbie.farrell@renfrewshire.gov.uk

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