

EXECUTIVE MEMBER DECISION FORM

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY: Cllr Julie McManus

KEY DECISION YES

PORTFOLIO AREA: Community Services

PORTFOLIOS AFFECTED: Community Services

WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

SUBJECT: REINTRODUCTION OF CAR PARKING CHARGES OPTIONS REPORT

1.0 RECOMMENDATION:

The Cabinet Member is requested to agree

1. a further one month suspension of charges beyond phase 2 of high street re-opening on 4 July 2020
2. that parking charges be re-introduced at previous rates across all off street and on street Council facilities with effect from Monday 3 August 2020;

2.0 REASONS FOR THE DECISION

- 2.1 The recommended option is considered to offer the most appropriate compromise and balance between council income loss, economic recovery of local businesses and public health implications.
- 2.2 The council is potentially able, subject to sufficiency of resource received, to recover lost car parking income from the start of lockdown in March 2020, until the more extensive re-opening of high street retail and hospitality outlets on 4 July 2020, from Covid-19 related funding made available from government. Any costs and losses relating to parking income beyond 4 July 2020 may not be eligible and would need to be recovered from alternative council budgets. The estimated reduction in income for a further one month suspension of charges is estimated to be in the region of £30,000 to £50,000.
- 2.3 Any other charging regime options, other than returning to previous rates, would require a decision of full Council as the rates and budget have been set by Council.

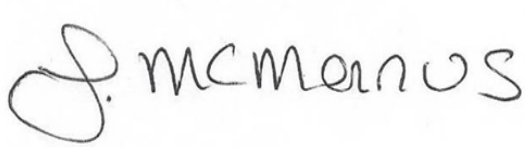

- 2.4 It is proposed to concurrently re-introduce changes across all council facilities at the same time to avoid any confusion, ensure consistency and assist the process of communicating the change by keeping the information simple.
- 2.5 Allowing one further month free parking sends out a positive message that the council wishes to help local businesses in their recovery and local people make use of our open spaces after lockdown is eased.

3.0 STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

3.1 The recommendations are made further to legal advice from the Deputy Monitoring Officer and the Section 151 Officer has confirmed that they do not incur unlawful expenditure. They are also compliant with equality legislation and an equality analysis and impact assessment has been completed. The recommendations reflect the core principles of good governance set out in the Council's Code of Corporate Governance.

4.0 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

4.1 There are no declarations of interest.

<p>Signed:</p>  <p>Executive Member: Cllr Julie McManus</p> <p>Date: 1 July 2020</p> <p>Also present:</p>	<p>Signed:</p>  <p>Chief Officer: Simon Fox</p> <p>Date: 1 July 2020</p>
<p>Date of Senior Policy Team Meeting(s):</p>	

A list of background papers on this issue is held with:

TCG JESIP Report Suspension of car park charges at country parks

TCG JESIP Report Suspension of ALL parking charges

Contact Officer: Steve Atkins

Date: 23 June 2020