

REPORT TO THE PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

11 OCTOBER 2013

FREE PARKING FOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS / LATE NIGHT SHOPPING EVENTS IN SEVENOAKS AND WESTERHAM TOWN CENTRES

Report of the: Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services

Status: For decision

Executive Summary: This report requests approval to make parking free after 5.00pm in Westerham town centre to support a Christmas Lights event on 28 November and after 6.00pm in Sevenoaks town centre to support a Christmas Lights event on 29 November 2013.

This report supports the Key Aim of safer communities and the effective and efficient use of resources.

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Roddy Hogarth

Head of Service Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services

Mr. Richard Wilson

Recommendation: that all parking charges be waived in all car parks and on-street parking areas in and around in Westerham after 5.00pm on 28 November and, similarly, in Sevenoaks town centre after 6.00pm on 29 November 2013, and that this be funded from the respective parking accounts.

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1. The Council has traditionally supported the annual events held in the Sevenoaks and Westerham town centres for the switching-on of the Christmas lights and late night shopping by making parking free of charge for the evening period.
 2. Requests have been received from the Westerham Town Council and from the Sevenoaks Town Council for the free parking concession to be repeated for this year's events which are to be held on Thursday 28 November in Westerham and on Friday 29 November in Sevenoaks.
 3. The Sevenoaks event is supported by Sencio Community Leisure, as it affects their parking at the Sevenoaks leisure centre.

Key Implications – Financial

4. The estimated loss of income to the parking accounts is £500.

Community impact and outcomes

5. In supporting the event, the Council will be supporting the local community and businesses in the town centres.

Legal, Human Rights, etc.

6. There are no issues relating to human rights

Risk Assessment Statement

7. Approval of the request will contribute to the success of the event for all concerned.

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| Sources of Information: | Requests from Sevenoaks Town Council dated 20 September and from Westerham Town Council dated 4 September 2013. |
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| Contact Officer(s): | Gary Connor (x7310) |
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RICHARD WILSON

CHIEF OFFICER ENVIRONMENTAL & OPERATIONAL SERVICES
