

ANNUAL REVIEW OF PARKING CHARGES FOR 2017-18

Cabinet - 9 March 2017

Report of Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services

Status: For Cabinet Decision

Also considered by: Cabinet - 10 November 2016

Key Decision: Yes

Executive Summary:

This report informs Members of the outcome of the public consultation on the annual review of parking charges for 2017-18, which proposed the extension of charges in the Council's Blighs car park and a modest rise to one on-street tariff in Sevenoaks town.

This report supports the Key Aim of:

The effective management of Council resources and supporting the local economy.

Portfolio Holder Councillor Matthew Dickins

Contact Officer John Strachan, Ext.7310

Recommendation:

That following consideration of the responses to the public consultation, the revised parking charges for 2017-18 be agreed by Cabinet.

Reason for recommendation:

To help regulate and manage the use of on and off street parking facilities in the District; to ensure car parking charges are set to support a sustainable local economy; and, to support services for residents as set out in the approved 10 year budget.

Introduction

- 1 This report considers the responses to proposals for revised charges in the Council's car parks and the fees for on street parking for 2017-18.
- 2 Two amendments to the 2016-17 scheme were proposed. Firstly, a minor change to improve car park management which would see the normal daily tariff extended to include Sundays in the Council's flagship Blighs car park in Sevenoaks town to help promote greater turnover of spaces. Free parking would continue to be preserved on street and in all the Council's other car parks. Secondly, simplification of the on-street tariff in central Sevenoaks (High Street, London Road, South Park) by bringing it in line with the pound per hour pricing available in the Council's car parks, albeit whilst retaining the popular thirty minute stay.

Background Information

- 3 Proposals were considered by Cabinet on 10 November 2016 and officers were directed to carry out a public consultation on them.
- 4 The public consultation fulfils the duty the Council has to notify the public of the proposals to vary parking charges.
- 5 Attached as an appendix is an analysis of the consultation responses.

Key Implications

Financial

- 6 The Council's 10 year budget assumes a 2.5% increase in the levels of income, including from parking, to enable the delivery of a balanced budget and continued provision of valued services to residents. Members reduced this figure from 3.5% to reflect the authority's continuing focus on introducing further efficiencies, increasing investment income and to reflect the national economic climate of recent years. The proposed changes in charges would satisfy this requirement.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

- 7 Changes to the charges will require Notices of Variation in respect of the on-street Traffic Regulation Order and the off-street Parking Order governing the management of on-street and off-street parking arrangements.

Equality Impacts

- 8 There is a low risk that the proposals in this report would have any implications under the Equality Act.

Community Impact and Outcomes

- 9 Measured and reasonable parking charges can encourage the use of more sustainable transport options and healthier lifestyles for journeys to school, work, and visits to shops and other amenities in towns and villages.

Human Rights

- 10 There are no human rights issues or implications.

Conclusions

- 11 Adoption of the revised parking charges will help improve management of parking in the District whilst also satisfying the Council's financial targets.

Appendices

Appendix A - Responses to the public consultation on the annual review of parking charges for 2017-18

Appendix B - Proposed Fees and Charges

Richard Wilson,

Chief Officer Environmental and Operational Services