

Officer Decision Statement

Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095

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| Subject: | Temporary Suspension of Car Parking Charges |
| Key Decision | Yes |
| Notice of the Key Decision | Notice has been given as per Regulation 11 of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012 |
| Details of Decision taken <p>That car parking charges be suspended in order to help the local community during these difficult times.</p> <p>The following actions will be put in place:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Suspension of on-street parking charges. 2. Suspension of off-street parking charges. 3. Suspension of car parking season tickets. 4. Parking restrictions will continue to be enforced (e.g. time limits in car parks) <p>These actions will be implemented for 3 months commencing on 23 March 2020 Season ticket holders will be contacted, and signage will be placed in car parks and on parking machines.</p> | |
| Reason for Decision <p>With the special circumstances surrounding the impact on residents of the coronavirus (Covid 19), the Council wants to take measures to help alleviate the financial burdens of its residents and businesses.</p> | |
| Reason for Urgency <p>In order to have a positive and immediate impact it is not possible to wait until the next meeting of Cabinet on 16 April 2020 and following government advice, prudent to avoid unnecessary meetings of groups of people. Instant action is required due to the real and present financial impact on residents of the spread of the virus and the measures required to contain that spread, and any delay increases that impact.</p> <p>Pursuant to Appendix C, paragraph 18 of the Council's Constitution, it is deemed that the decision proposed is reasonable in these circumstances to be treated as a matter of urgency and the call-in procedure does not apply.</p> | |

All Documents considered:

Background information attached.

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Officer when making the Decision: None.

Financial implications

The potential loss of income for three months is as follows:

| | £ |
|--|---------|
| Suspension of on-street parking charges | 116,000 |
| Suspension of off-street parking charges | 534,000 |
| Suspension of car parking season tickets | 108,000 |
| Total | 758,000 |

The above figures are based on April 2019 income levels however, it should be noted that actual usage of available parking has significantly reduced over the last week so the actual income that is likely to be received if these actions were not implemented would be significantly less.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

This decision is taken by the Chief Executive acting in accordance with Paragraph 12 (d) of Part 13 of the Constitution, which authorises him as follows:

(d) In cases of urgency, after consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the Council [and, where possible, the Leader(s) of the Opposition], to take any decision which could be taken by the Cabinet or by a Committee and to report such actions to Cabinet or Committee as appropriate.

Furthermore, this being an urgent Key Decision, Notice has been duly given and the agreement of the Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee has been sought to enable the decision to proceed as per Regulation 11(1)(a) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012.

Furthermore, this being an urgent Key Decision, the agreement of the Chairman of the Council has been sought to disapply the call-in procedure set out in Paragraph 18 of Appendix C of the Constitution, for the reasons set out in Paragraphs 18.13 - 18.18.

Equality Assessment

The decisions recommended through this paper have a remote or low relevance to the substance of the Equality Act. There is no perceived impact on end users.

Local Member(s), Portfolio Holders and/or Chief Officer/Heads of Service Consulted

Councillors Fleming, Dickins and McArthur.
Chief Officer - Finance and Trading

Agreement of Chairman of Scrutiny Committee pursuant to 11 (1)(a) of The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Meetings and Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012, obtained on: 20 March 2020

Agreement of the Chairman of the Council pursuant to Appendix C, para.18.16 of the Council's Constitution, obtained on: 20 March 2020

Details of any conflicts of interest

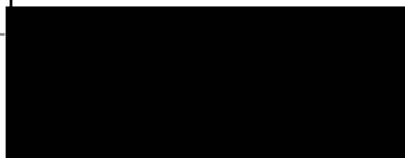
a) declared by any member who was consulted or was part of the body giving specific express authorisation

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict

Decision taken by:

Dr. Pav Ramewal, Chief Executive

Signed by Officer



Date of Decision

20.03.20

Record made by:

Vanessa Etheridge

Date of record:

20.03.20

This decision takes immediate effect