

Appendix B

Officer Decision Statement

Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014/2095

Subject:	Temporary Suspension of Car Parking Charges - Sevenoaks Town Car Park
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
<p>Details of Decision taken</p> <p>In March, Members requested the suspension of car parking charges for three months (23 March - 22 June 2020) in order to help the local community during these difficult times.</p> <p>Now that lockdown has reduced and non-essential shops can re-open from 15 June 2020 it is important to manage the available parking proactively so that it is used in the most effective manner. To enable this to happen, Members have requested that all parking charges are reinstated from 23 June 2020 except for Sevenoaks Town Car Park (for up to one month) so that free parking remains available within Sevenoaks town.</p> <p>The following actions will be put in place from 23 June 2020 for up to one month:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued suspension of parking charges in Sevenoaks Town Car Park. 2. Continued suspension of season tickets in Sevenoaks Town Car Park. 	
<p>Reason for Decision</p> <p>With the special circumstances surrounding the impact on residents of the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, the Council wants to take measures to continue to help alleviate the financial burdens of its residents and businesses.</p> <p>Reason for Urgency</p> <p>The original agreement to suspend car parking charges ends on 22 June 2020, therefore it is not possible to wait until the next meeting of Cabinet on 9 July 2020 and following government advice, prudent to avoid unnecessary meetings of groups of people.</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 one months is £43,000.

The above figure is based on 2020/21 budgeted income levels. However, it should be noted that actual usage of parking may be lower than previously anticipated during this period as the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic continue.

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: 18 June 2020	
Agreement of the Chairman of the Council pursuant to Appendix C, para.18.16 of the Council's Constitution, obtained on: 18 June 2020	
<p>Details of any conflicts of interest</p> <p>a) declared by any member who was consulted or was part of the body giving specific express authorisation</p> <p>b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict</p>	
Decision taken by:	Dr. Pav Ramewal, Chief Executive
Signed by Officer	
Date of Decision	18.06.20
Record made by:	Charlie Sinclair
Date of record:	22.06.20

This decision takes immediate effect