Portfolio Holder Executive Decision Statement

The Local Authority (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

Subject:

Car Park at Everest Place, Swanley

Details of Decision taken

Approval of a fees and charges structure for car parking in the car park at Everest Place (currently known as Swanley Station B car park).

Reason for Decision

The lease agreement between Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and Network Rail Limited (NRL) (formerly Railtrack Plc) dated 11 June 2002 for the car park at Everest Place (currently known as Swanley Station B car park) expired last year, and SDC has served notice on NRL to vacate the site by 30 April 2023.

The 30-space car park is currently managed and operated as a payand-stay parking place by a parking management company, APCOA on behalf of NRL.

When it returns to SDC, the car park will be added to its Off-Street Parking Places Order 2010, as amended, and a structure of competitive fees and charges for parking there put in place to replace those set by NRL, to ensure that it is operated and managed efficiently and effectively.

Pay-and-stay parking transactions will continue to be cashless, and free parking will continue to be offered to all disabled persons' Blue Badge holders.

All Documents considered:

A table showing the existing (NRL/APCOA) fees and charges structure, the existing SDC fees and charges structure for the Bradbourne car park, located near the station in Sevenoaks (for comparative purposes) and the proposed SDC fees and charges structure for pay-and-stay car parking in the car park at Everest Place (currently known as Swanley Station B car park) is attached to this executive decision statement. Note: The existing (NRL/APCOA) fees and charges structure for Swanley Station B car park is the same as that in the Swanley Station A car park (also managed on behalf of NRL by APCOA).

Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the Member when making the Decision:

The options considered and rejected are:

- To continue to use the same or another parking management company to operate the car park at Everest Place with the same or a new fees and charges structure
- To introduce an alternative fees and charges structure, or to make no charge to park in the car park

Consideration has also been given to retaining off-peak and Saturday/Sunday parking charges. However, because many of the roads locally, including Everest Place and St Marys Road, have single yellow line parking restrictions which are not in force after 10am on weekdays or at any time at weekends, it was felt that such charges could encourage drivers to park on-street, rather than in the car park, to the detriment of local residents and visitors.

Financial implications

In accordance with Section 55 of The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the revenue generated from the fees and charges structure will provide for the efficient and effective operation and management of SDC's car parks, and any surplus generated can be used for the purposes specified therein.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement

The addition of the car park at Everest Place to the Off-Street Parking Places Order 2010, as amended, and the associated fees and charges structure will require the making of a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) under Sections 32, 35 and 124 and Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers.

Before making the TRO, a formal (statutory) consultation procedure must be followed in accordance with The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.

Any objections to the proposed TRO received during the formal consultation (other than frivolous or irrelevant ones) that are not withdrawn will be reported to and considered by the Portfolio Holder and/or Cabinet before a decision is made on whether to make the TRO.

Equality Impacts

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), other Portfolio Holders and Chief Officer/Head of Service Consulted

Deputy Chief Executive and Chief Officer - Finance & Trading, the Head of Direct Services and the Senior Management Team were consulted about the proposed fees and charges structure for car parking in the car park at Everest Place.

Local Members (Swanley St. Marys ward) and Kent County Council will be consulted as part of the formal (statutory) consultation for the proposed TRO.

Details of any conflicts of interest

 a) declared by any executive member who is consulted by the Decision Taker

None declared.

b) and any details of dispensations granted by the Chief Executive in respect of any declared conflict None declared.

Decision taken by:	Cleaner & Greener Portfolio Holder		
Signed by Portfolio Holder	Councillor Margot McArthur		
Date of Decision	22 February 2023		
Record made by:	ABinnie - 22/2/23		
Date of record:	22 February 2023		

	Current Tariff	Current Tariff	Proposed New Tariff	
	(NRL/APCOA)	(SDC)	(SDC)	
	Swanley	Sevenoaks	Swanley	
	Station B Car Park	Bradbourne Car Park	Everest Place Car Park	
Charging Days	Monday to Sunday	Monday to Sunday	Monday to Friday	
Charging Hours	All Day	8.30am - 6.30pm	8.30am - 6.30pm	
Off-Peak (weekdays after 14.30)	£6.30	Hourly tariff	Not Available	
Off-Peak (weekdays after 18.00)	£1.50	Hourly tariff	Not Available	
Daily (weekdays)	£7.10	£8.00	£7.00	
Daily (Saturdays)	£4.10	£5.00	Free	
Daily (Sundays)	£1.00	£5.00	Free	
Daily (Public/Bank Holidays)	£1.00	Free	Free	
Season Tickets				
1-Week Season Ticket	£32.20	£30.00	£30.00	
Monthly Season Ticket	£113.30	£120.00	£110.00	
3-Month Season Ticket	£338.10	£335.00	£320.00	
6-Month Season Ticket	£676.40	£660.00	£625.00	
Annual Season Ticket	£1,226.20	£1,300.00	£1,200.00	