

## READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

### REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

<b>TO:</b>	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
<b>DATE:</b>	10 JANUARY 2019	<b>AGENDA ITEM:</b>	11
<b>TITLE:</b>	HOSPITAL & UNIVERSITY AREA PARKING SCHEME - MINOR AMENDMENTS		
<b>LEAD COUNCILLOR:</b>	TONY PAGE	<b>PORTFOLIO:</b>	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
<b>SERVICE:</b>	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	<b>WARDS:</b>	REDLANDS & CHURCH
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#### 1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report seeks approval for Officers to undertake statutory consultation for implementing minor alterations to a number of parking restrictions within the Hospital and University area parking scheme.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 - Drawings to show the proposed alterations to the Hospital and University area parking scheme.

#### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Sub-Committee notes the report.
- 2.2 That the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to undertake a statutory consultation in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, for the proposed alterations to the Hospital and University area parking scheme in Appendix 1.
- 2.3 That subject to no objections being received during the period of statutory consultation, the Head of Legal and Democratic Services be authorised to make the Traffic Regulation Order.

2.4 That any objection(s) received, following the statutory advertisement, be reported to a future meeting of the Sub-Committee.

2.5 That no public inquiry be held into the proposals.

### 3. POLICY CONTEXT

3.1 The provision of waiting (parking) restrictions and associated criteria is specified within existing Traffic Management Policies and Standards.

### 4. BACKGROUND AND RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 The Hospital and University area parking scheme was implemented in early 2017, consisting of Resident Permit and Pay and Display parking restrictions, in addition to localised yellow-line restrictions.

4.2 A scheme update was reported to the Sub-Committee at its September 2017 meeting with the agreed recommendation that Officers conduct a statutory consultation on expanding the Pay and Display restrictions to include weekend charging.

4.3 Officers and Redlands Ward Councillors received feedback from residents and organisations within the parking scheme area and met to consider minor alterations that could be proposed. The proposals predominantly included changing the no-waiting times for single-yellow-line restrictions at locations where parking would not be considered appropriate.

4.4 A statutory consultation was conducted on the combination of weekend charging at Pay and Display areas and the agreed minor changes, with the feedback being reported to the Sub-Committee at their meeting in June 2018.

4.5 A number of the restrictions were agreed for implementation at the June 2018 meeting, however, it was decided that many proposals required further consideration of public feedback and for officers and Ward Councillors to develop alternative proposals.

4.6 Appendix 1 provides a series of drawings to show the results of this development and the proposals that are recommended for progression to statutory consultation.

The Sub-Committee is asked to note that these drawings include the restriction changes that have been previously agreed by the Sub-

Committee, so they may not match the restrictions that are currently in place. The changes that the Sub-Committee is being asked to agree are those highlighted with a red, dashed outline.

- 4.7 As yet, the previously agreed changes to the scheme have not been implemented, which includes the agreement to increase the Pay and Display charges by 10p per tariff (agreed by the Sub-Committee in January 2018). It is intended that that the implementation of restriction changes in this parking scheme area will be conducted as a single scheme, once all changes have been agreed. This approach will be more cost-effective and ensure clarity of the restrictions across the scheme area, supporting enforceability.
- 4.8 Scheme implementation will not be programmed, no materials will be ordered and no works instructions issued until after a decision has been made by the Sub-Committee to implement a scheme, the meeting minutes are agreed and the resultant legal Order is sealed.

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO CORPORATE PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 This proposal contributes to the Council's priorities, as set out below:
- Keeping Reading's environment clean, green and safe
  - Ensuring the Council is fit for the future

## **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION**

- 6.1 Statutory consultation will be carried out in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.
- 6.2 A notice of variation of charges will be placed at each Pay and Display ticket machine for a period of 21 days ahead of implementing the tariff increase.

## **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The creation of - and changes to existing - Traffic Regulation Orders will require advertisement and consultation, under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996.
- 7.2 The Pay and Display tariff increase will be implemented following the 21 day notification period, advertised by the placement of a Notice of 'Variation of Charges of On Street Parking Places' notice (Section 46A of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984) at each applicable Pay and Display ticket machine.

7.3 Implemented waiting restrictions will be signed in accordance with the Traffic Signs, Regulations and General Directions 2016.

## **8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
- advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 It is not considered that an Equality Impact Assessment is relevant as the proposals are not deemed to be discriminatory to persons with protected characteristics. A statutory consultation will be conducted, providing an opportunity for objections/support/concerns to be considered prior to a decision being made on whether to implement the proposals.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 Funding for the advertisement requirement of the statutory consultation and subsequent implementation of agreed changes will need to be identified. It is intended that these costs will be met by the Council's Capital Works budget, with external funding (e.g. CIL or Section 106 contributions) to be used wherever possible.

9.2 The estimated additional revenue generation from the changes to Pay and Display operational hours and tariff increases have been previously reported, in the context that those for the Hospital and University area formed part of a wider range of measures across the borough.

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10.1 Results of Statutory Consultations - Pay & Display Minor Changes (Hospital & University Area) Report (Traffic Management Sub-Committee - June 2018).

10.2 On-Street Pay & Display and Redlands Parking Scheme - Minor Amendments (Traffic Management Sub-Committee, January 2018).