

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

**HIGHWAYS AND NEIGHBOURHOODS
CABINET MEMBER**

EXTENDING FREE CAR PARKING

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To approve further extensions to existing free car parking arrangements covering all council operated pay and display car parks in North Lincolnshire.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 A number of 'free parking' initiatives currently operate across North Lincolnshire. These include the first two hours free in all council operated pay and display car parks, introduced on 12 May 2014 aimed at boosting the prosperity of our town centres, particularly for retailers. In addition, the council offers free parking after 2pm in the Parishes multi storey car park as well as free parking after 3pm in the Allanby Street car park.
- 2.2 Councillors have publically announced plans to further extend the availability of free parking by offering free parking in all council operated pay and display car parks for the full day on Saturdays.
- 2.3 At the recent full council budget meeting, monies were allocated in the approved 2014/18 budget plan to facilitate taking this policy forward.

3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 3.1 The Cabinet Member is asked to approve the introduction of free parking in all council operated pay and display car parks for the full day on Saturdays (including the Parishes).

4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

- 4.1 Introducing this further extension of the availability of free parking should encourage more visits to our town centres.
- 4.2 The changes to the 'pay and display' free parking initiatives would require changes to signage and software. It is therefore proposed that

the changes take effect from Saturday 21 June 2014 to allow sufficient time to make these changes.

5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Finance

At the full council budget meeting in February, monies were allocated in the approved 2014/18 budget plan to facilitate taking further free parking policies forward. A sum of £520,000 was approved for 2014/15 rising to £660,000 per year thereafter to cover income lost from ticket sales arising from the changes proposed. Officers will monitor the impacts of the changes with a view to making any necessary adjustments to these allocations via the periodic budget reviews that are considered by Cabinet during the financial year.

5.2 There are no other immediate significant resource implications to highlight.

6. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)

6.1 No significant impact.

7. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED

7.1 Requests for more free parking in Scunthorpe have been received in the expectation that this will help local businesses.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 That the Cabinet Member approves the extensions to existing free car parking arrangements to free parking in all council operated pay and display car parks on Saturdays with effect from 21 June 2014.

DIRECTOR OF PLACES

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

- Approved council budget plan 2014/18 as agreed by full council on 25 February 2014