
Report To:	Environment & Regeneration Committee	Date:	29 August 2019
Report By:	Corporate Director Environment, Regeneration and Resources	Report No:	ENV041/19/GM
Contact Officer:	Gail Macfarlane	Contact No:	01475 712038
Subject:	Car Parking Charging Proposals		

1.0 PURPOSE

- 1.1 It is proposed to increase parking income by introducing charging within town centre car parks that are currently free.

This report sets out the proposed charging regime and key dates for implementation.

2.0 SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Council has set a balanced budget for financial year 2019/20 and included within this is increased off street parking income of £100,000.

Managing the provision of car parking and increasing turnover is a recognised tool to improve access to town centre businesses and facilities, support the economy and reduce frustration for visitors. An effective charging policy deters long stay parking close to town centres and frees up space for short stay parking which is helpful to customers and is economically more advantageous.

- 2.2 It is proposed to introduce parking charges within the following car parks:

Location	Number of Spaces
• Kempock Street East, Gourock	120
• Kempock Street West, Gourock	45
• Shore Street, Port Glasgow	155
• Fore Street, Port Glasgow	110
• Princes Street, Port Glasgow	64
• Lochwinnoch Road, Kilmacolm	59

Total number of spaces is 553 (includes 33 disabled parking spaces).

The car parks identified are in the walking proximity of the town centre and charging will encourage turnover and improve access to businesses and facilities.

- 2.3 The following charging regime is proposed:

Vehicles will be permitted to park for up to 3hrs free of charge and this will increase to £2/day if vehicles wish to park for longer than 3 hours.

Where car parks are in residential areas and residents have no other parking available they will be able to apply for a resident's permit. Currently these are free and permit the holder to park for longer than the time restrictions and free of charge in charged car parks.

It is anticipated that approximately 20% of the available spaces will be used by permit holders with 50% occupancy paying £2/day for 50 weeks a year, 5 days a week.

$$= £2 \times 50\text{weeks} \times 5\text{days} \times 400\text{spaces} \times 50\% = \mathbf{£100,000 / year}$$

The charges will be in place from Monday to Friday.

2.4 The proposed implementation timeline is as follows:

Promote Traffic Regulation Order (which includes public consultation)	September 2019
Installation of meters and signs	March 2020
Commence charging	April 2020

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 It is recommended that the Committee approves:

- the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order to introduce parking charging within the identified town centre car parks.

Gail Macfarlane
Shared Head of Service

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council is required to set a balanced budget for the financial year ahead. One of the budget savings included for the financial year 2019/20 is to increase income from the introduction of car park charging within town centre car parks that are owned by the Council and are currently free.

Charging currently exists in a number of car parks within the local authority area. The existing car parks are identified in 5.0 below with the current income and occupancy rates.

4.2 A public consultation was carried out in 2018 in relation to budget savings. 41% of those responding agreed with the proposal to introduce car park charging.

5.0 CURRENT POSITION

5.1 The Council currently charges in 10 town centre car parks.

5.2 The following table details the income etc. received by the Council:

Car Park	Total Annual Charge	Number of charged spaces	Occupancy Rate	Charge
Roslin St	£2,628.08	20	25%	£2/day
West Stewart St	£9,087.26	22	79%	£2/day
Station Ave East	£7,193.68	26	43%	£2/day
Station Ave West	£7,272.46	17	79%	£2/day
Bullring	£34,177.26	91	72%	£2/day
Cathcart St East	£6,967.20	30	77%	£2/day
Hastie Street	£15,765.36	47	65%	£2/day
Dalrymple St	£18,205.72	37	95%	£2/day
Station Rd North Gourock (charged 6 days a week)	£12,475.06	19	105% (people have paid more than £2 a day)	£2/day
Station Rd South Gourock (charged 6 days a week)	£2,654.60	12	35%	£2/day
Total	£116,426.68	321	67.5% (average)	

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6.0 IMPLICATIONS

Finance

6.1 Increased income off set by savings proposals.

Financial Implications:

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
	Parking	19/20	29,400		Capital cost for pay and display machines and signage.
	Parking revenue	2020/21	5,000		Residents' Parking Permits Set Up

Annually Recurring Costs/ (Savings)

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments
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	Parking revenue	2020/21	5,000		Residents' Parking Permits Set Up

Legal

6.2 The introduction of car park charging requires the promotion of a Traffic Regulation Order. This is a legal process and members of the public have the opportunity to object.

Human Resources

6.3 There are no HR issues as enforcement will be carried out by existing Community Wardens.

Equalities

6.4 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

Repopulation

6.5 There are no direct repopulation implications arising from this report.

7.0 CONSULTATIONS

7.1 The Chief Financial Officer, Head of Legal & Property Services, and the Corporate Procurement Manager have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.