

ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS CABINET BOARD

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT – G. NUTT

12TH MARCH 2015

SECTION A – MATTER FOR DECISION

WARD(S) AFFECTED: NEATH NORTH

NEW NEATH MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK OPERATING REGIME

Purpose of Report

To seek Members' approval on the management and operating regime for the new Neath multi-storey car park.

Background

Members will be aware of the new multi-storey car park construction work currently being undertaken in the Neath town centre. The Authority needs to decide which of the various options of parking solutions they wish to implement. The various options open to the Authority regarding the operating regime as it currently stands are:-

1. Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR)
2. Pay on Foot
3. Pay and Display

Automatic Number Plate Recognition

ANPR is the newest form of car park control and can be coupled with a range of payment options from pay on foot through to pay and display and can be operated with both barrier controlled car parks and barrier less sites.

ANPR carries with it the greatest flexibility of payment type; customers can either pay on entry, exit or even pre or post pay. This method also offers almost 100% compliance in terms of payment and introduces the ability to soft enforce as well as hard enforce any non-compliance.

However, as current legislation stand, the Authority are unable to enforce through the use of ANPR.

Pay on Foot

Operating principle: A motorist when entering a pay on foot controlled car park takes a machine readable ticket from a ticket dispenser in the entry lane and the traffic control barrier then opens to permit entry to the car park. The ticket allows the date, time of entry to be identified. The motorist parks, keeps the ticket and goes about their business. When the motorist complete their business they return to the car park, finds a paypoint and presents the entry ticket. The parking fee is automatically calculated at the paypoint from the data on the ticket. Upon payment of the parking fee, the information on the ticket is modified and returned to the motorist. The motorist returns to the vehicle and drives to the exit lane where the modified ticket is presented to the ticket reader, which verifies that payment has been made and opens the traffic control barrier to allow exit.

This has become the market standard method for operating retail focused car parks. Pay on foot offers a high level of payment compliance coupled with customer service benefits such as, flexibility of payment methods and only paying for the time actually used.

Pay on foot relies on the car park being barrier controlled, whilst this gives an added feeling of security for customers it does create the operational requirement for onsite staffing during all operating hours in case of mechanical failure and loss of ticket.

The equipment carries a high day 1 cost depending on which system is implemented and given the complexity of the payment machines, relatively high on-going maintenance costs. On top of this there is the requirement for full staffing of the car park.

Pay and Display

Operating principle: A motorist when entering a Pay and Display controlled car park drives in, finds a parking space and walks to the nearest paypoint (Pay and Display machine), decides how long a parking period they want and then purchases a pay and display ticket for that duration.

The motorist then displays that ticket in the vehicle so that it can be easily read from outside. The motorist then goes about their business. When the business is complete the motorist returns to their vehicle and drives out of the car park. Pay and Display systems control motorists by the threat of financial penalties for contravention of the car parking order. Contraventions are detected by Local Authority Civil Enforcement Officers (CEO's).

Whilst Pay and Display is often seen as old fashioned and a basic method of car park control, it does carry significant benefits in terms of capital cost, maintenance costs, reliability and reduce the need for staffing.

The down side of Pay and Display is the potential for low levels of payment compliance, and needs to be covered by increased enforcement to reach the same levels of compliance as pay on foot.

Modern Pay and Display machines offer the same flexibility of payment types as pay on foot and with the addition of pay by phone, can also offer a cashless payment option.

Also, as part of the operating strategy, a robust budget is required for the cleansing, security and lift maintenance contracts for the multi-storey car park.

Financial Implications

The cost of works and the installation of the new Pay and Display machines will be funded from the capital works programme.

Budgets need to set up for cleansing, security and lift maintenance and utility costs.

Consultation Outcome

A legal order will be advertised and any objections and observations will be reported back to Environment and Highways Scrutiny Committee and Environment and Highways Cabinet Board before a final decision is taken.

Sustainability Appraisal

The new Neath multi-storey car park will support sustainable travel/parking for users.

The car park will support Town Centre Regeneration.

Recommendations

It is recommended, having given due regard to the Equality Impact Assessment:-

1. The management of the Neath multi-storey be undertaken by the Authority's parking services.
2. That new pay and display machines be purchased for the Neath multi-storey car park.
3. That Officers be authorised to vary the Council's civic properties facilities term contract to include the new lifts in to the current facilities maintenance contract.
4. That the tariff structure set out at Appendix A be approved.

Reasons for Proposed Decision

To enable the Authority to adopt an operating regime for the new Neath multi-storey car park.

Appendices

Appendix A – Schedule - Tariff Structure

Background Papers

None

Wards Affected

Neath North

Officers' Contact

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COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

NEW NEATH MULTI-STOREY CAR PARK OPERATING REGIME

(a) **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call-in period.

(b) **Sustainability Appraisal**

Community Plan Impacts

Economic Prosperity	-	positive
Education and Lifelong Learning	-	no impact
Better Health and Well Being	-	no impact
Environment and Transport	-	positive
Crime and Disorder	-	no impact

Other Impacts

Welsh Language	-	no impact
Sustainable Development	-	no impact
Equalities	-	no impact
Social Inclusion	-	positive

(c) **Consultation**

A legal order will be advertised and should any objections/observations be received, these will be presented to a future Environment and Highways Scrutiny Committee for discussion before consideration by the Environment and Highways Board and a decision made.

SCHEDULE

<u>Column 1</u>	<u>Column 2</u>	<u>Column 3</u>	<u>Column 4</u>	<u>Column 5</u>	<u>Column 6</u>	<u>Column 7</u>	<u>Column 8</u>	<u>Column 9</u>	<u>Column 10</u>
<u>Name of the Parking Place</u>	<u>Date at which the order will come into effect in relation to parking place</u>	<u>Position in which vehicles may wait</u>	<u>Classes of vehicle</u>	<u>Days of Operation of Parking Place</u>	<u>Hours of Operation of Parking Place</u>	<u>Maximum Period for which vehicle may wait</u>	<u>Scale of Charges</u>	<u>Season Tickets</u>	<u>Bands</u>
Neath Multi-storey Car Park Neath	1 st July 2015	Wholly within a parking bay other than a disabled parking space applies to (i) to (iii) of column 4 herein. Wholly within a parking space applies to (iv) & (v) of column 4 herein.	(i) motor cars within provision of section 136 (2) (a) of the Act (ii) motor cycles as defined in section 136(4) of the Act (iii) motor vehicles constructed or adapted for the use for the conveyance of goods or burden the unladen weight of which does not exceed 1525kg (iv) invalid carriages (v) disabled persons vehicles	Monday to Saturday inclusive excluding Christmas day Sunday	8.00am to 6.00pm 9.00am to 5.00pm	10 hours 8 hours	Up to 1 hour £1.30 1-2 hours £1.80 2-3 hours £2.30 3-4 hours £2.80 Over 4 hours £3.30 £1.00 All Day	3 months - £100.00 6 months - £180.00 9 months - £250.00 12 months - £315.00	D