

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Environment and Highways Cabinet Board

6th November 2015

Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport

D. W. Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: Neath North, Port Talbot

Parking Review 2015-16

Purpose of Report

To seek Members' approval to amend the current off-street parking tariffs.

To change Milland Road to a short stay car park.

To agree the Christmas parking arrangements for 2015.

Executive Summary

This report sets out amendments to the off-street tariff structure in the short stay car parks in Neath and Port Talbot centres; to increase usage and footfall in the car parks. The report also sets out proposals to change Milland Road car park from a long stay to a short stay and to consider free Christmas car parking over the festive season.

Background

Off-street tariff Structure

Members will be aware that the Authority last changed the off-street parking tariffs in 2014.

Since that tariff change officers and elected Members have received a number of stakeholders requests that the tariff structure be revisited in order to attract more trade in to the town centres.

Set out below is the current off-street tariff structure, together with the proposed reduced charges.

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
Up to 1 hour	£1.30	£1.00
1-2 hours	£1.80	£1.50
2-3 hours	£2.30	£2.00
3-4 hours	£2.80	£2.50
All Day	£3.30	£3.00

It is proposed to trial the change in tariff structure for a limited 12 month period. Should the Authority see no increased use of the car parks during this period, then it is intended to revert back to the current tariff structure in 2017.

Milland Road Car Park

Stakeholders have also requested if it would be possible to change the current operating regime in Milland Road car park from long stay to short stay. They have indicated that businesses in the southern end of Neath are suffering as there is no short stay provision in the area. This can be implemented and it should be noted that motorists will still be able to purchase multiple days parking in this car park and an all-day ticket.

Christmas Car Parking

It was agreed last year that the Council offer free car parking in all the Authority's pay and display car parks as well as the pay-on-exit car park at Milland Road from Saturday 13th to Wednesday 24th December 2014 inclusive.

It is proposed that this year the Council offer extended free car parking to include two days after Christmas; from Saturday 12th to Sunday 27th December 2015 inclusive.

Members will be aware that consultation is currently ongoing as part of the wider FFP proposals with regard to the withdrawal of free Christmas car parking from 2016 onwards.

Financial Impact

There will be a 30p per hour reduction across the schedule of charges in short stay off street car parks in Neath and Port Talbot town centres.

Free Christmas parking last year equated to a loss of income of circa £20,000 for the whole of Neath and Port Talbot CBC car parks.

Lost car park income has to be absorbed by the consolidated parking management account.

Equality Impact Assessment

A screening assessment has been undertaken and there is no requirement for a full EIA.

Workforce Impact

There are no workforce implications.

Legal Impact

A legal order will be advertised and subject to there being no objections to the tariff changes proposed, then it is intended to implement them with immediate effect.

Risk Management

Members are advised that there is a risk element to the change in tariff structures should usage of the car parks fail to increase. Any potential loss of income would need to be absorbed by the parking account and will be limited to a 12 month trial period.

Consultation

This item has been included in the Forward Work Programme and will be the subject to external consultation.

A legal order will be advertised and should any objections 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.

Recommendation(s)

It is recommended:-

1. The proposed tariff structures be advertised and subject to there being no objection, that the new tariff structure be implemented.
2. That Milland Road car park be changed from a long stay to a short stay car park.
3. Free Christmas parking is agreed in Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe Pay and Display Car Parks from Saturday 12th to Sunday 27th December inclusive.

Reason for proposed Decision(s)

The introduction of the reduced tariff structure will encourage car park usage in the Neath and Port Talbot town centres.

Changing Milland Road car park to short stay will support businesses in the southern end of the town centre.

A period of free parking is likely to attract increased numbers of Christmas shoppers over the festive period.

Implementation of Decision

The decision is an urgent one for immediate implementation, subject to the consent of the relevant Scrutiny Chair (and is therefore not subject to the call-in procedure.)

Appendix

Appendix 1 – Schedule - Tariff Structure

List of Background Papers

None

Officer Contact

Steve Cook, Parking Manager
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Station Road Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	A	
Harbourside - Parkway Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	Monday to Sunday inclusive excluding Christmas day	As above	As above	As above	All Day	£3.00	As above	B
Heilbron Way Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	Monday to Saturday inclusive excluding Christmas Day	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	B
Civic Centre Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	Saturday	8.00am to 6.00pm	10 hours	Up to 1 hour £1.00 1-2 hours £1.50 2-3 hours £2.00 3-4 hours £2.50 All Day £3.00	n/a	n/a	As above	A
Ocean Way Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	Sunday	9.00am to 5.00pm	8 hours	All Day £1.00	n/a	n/a	As above	C
Bay View Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	Monday to Sunday inclusive 1 st May-29 th September	7.00am to 10.00pm	15 hour period	Flat rate £1.00	n/a	n/a	As above	C
Scarlet Avenue Car Park Port Talbot	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	As above	n/a	n/a	As above	C
Multi-storey Car Park Neath	As above	As above	As above	As above	Monday to Saturday inclusive excluding Christmas Day	8.00am to 6.00pm	10 hours	Up to 1 hour £1.00 1-2 hours £1.50 2-3 hours £2.00 3-4 hours £2.50 All Day £3.00	3 months - £100.00 6 months - £180.00 9 months - £250.00 12 months - £315.00	As above	As above	A

