



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot
Neath Port Talbot Council

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Streetscene & Engineering Cabinet Board

Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport

David W. Griffiths

Matter for Decision

Wards Affected: All

Covid-19 Suspension of Car Parking Tariffs and Enforcement.

Purpose of the Report:

To seek Members' endorsement for the suspension of car parking tariffs and on-street enforcement.

Executive Summary:

The report sets out the actions taken to suspend car parking charges and enforcement due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Background:

Parking management is an important public service, which provides benefits to motorists and the wider community. Those benefits include maintaining road safety and ensuring access to goods and services.

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic Councils car parking tariffs for off street car parks at Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe Town Centre Car Parks, Aberafan Seafont, Milland Road Railway Car Park and Harbourside Car Park Port Talbot have been suspended to help reduce the risk of contracting coronavirus by having to use the Pay and Display parking meters and to help reduce the necessity for cash handling. This action will also help the public to maintain social distancing by not having to queue and pay at parking metres whilst

carrying out essential food/pharmaceutical shopping. Additionally on-street enforcement is to be suspended to help front line health and key workers discharge essential community and humanitarian support across the County Borough.

Members are advised that all enforcement activity and parking charges ceased at short notice to comply with the Governments lock down period which began on 23rd April 2020.

Financial Impacts:

Due to the on-going period of lockdown the authority will lose considerable income from the suspension of the off-street car parking tariffs and wider parking enforcement activities.

Integrated Impact Assessment:

A first stage Impact Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment, attached at Appendix A, has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required.

Valleys Communities Impacts:

No implications.

Workforce Impacts:

No implications.

Legal Impacts:

No implications.

Risk Management Impacts:

Any potential loss of income may be recoverable from the Welsh Government, however, it is noted that this is subject to on-going discussions.

Consultation:

There is no requirement for consultation on this item. A message will be displayed on the parking meters at each car park informing members of the public of the suspension of the parking tariffs.

Recommendations:

It is recommended in consultation with the Leader and relevant Cabinet Member that the actions taken at short notice to assist with the Covid 19 Pandemic lockdown to suspend the car parking tariffs at Neath, Port Talbot and Pontardawe Town Centre Car Parks, Aberafan Seafront, Milland Road Railway Car Park and Harbourside Car Park Port Talbot and all on-street enforcement be endorsed for the duration of the lockdown.

Reasons for Proposed Decision:

The suspension of parking tariffs will help to reduce the risk of contracting coronavirus by having to use pay and display parking meters and reduce the necessity for cash handling. This action will also help the public to maintain social distancing by not having to queue and pay at metres whilst carrying out essential food/pharmaceutical shopping. Additionally the suspension of on-street enforcement will assist front line health and key workers discharge essential community and humanitarian support across the County Borough during the Covid-19 lock down.

Implementation of Decision:

The decision is proposed for immediate implementation.

Appendices:

Appendix A - First Stage IIA

List of Background Papers:

None

Officer Contact:

Steve Cook, Parking Manager
Tel. No: 01639 763968
Email: environment@npt.gov.uk

