



HIGHWAYS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Date 11 November 2014

REPORT

Subject Heading:

**George Street – TPC348
Proposed change of a voucher parking
bay to a Pay & Display bay.- comments
to advertised proposals**

Report Author and contact details:

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The subject matter of this report deals with the following Council Objectives

Clean, safe and green borough	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Excellence in education and learning	<input type="checkbox"/>
Opportunities for all through economic, social and cultural activity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Value and enhance the life of every individual	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
High customer satisfaction and a stable council tax	<input type="checkbox"/>

SUMMARY

This report outlines the responses received to the advertised proposals to change a Voucher parking bay in George Street to a Pay & Display bay (Romford Town).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Committee having considered the representations made recommends to the Cabinet Member for Environment that:- the following measures, as set out in the report and shown on the Appendix 1 be implemented:
 - a. the proposals to change the use of the existing Voucher Parking facility in George Street to Pay and Display parking as shown on **Appendix A**, be implemented as advertised;
 - b. Members note that the estimated cost of this scheme in George Street as set out in this report is £4,000 and can be funded from the capital allocation;
 - c. That the effect of the scheme be monitored.

REPORT DETAIL

1.0 Background

- 1.1 Currently, there is Voucher Disc parking bays in George Street area are operational from Monday to Saturday 8:30am to 6:30pm.
- 1.2 Throughout the borough there is a general trend for the Council to receive requests from shopkeepers or residents to change existing voucher parking bays to Pay and Display parking bays, which are now considered to be more convenient and user friendly for visitors and shoppers.
- 1.3 This request was presented to the Highways Advisory Committee at its meeting in September 2013, when the Committee agreed in principle to design and consult on such proposals.
- 1.4 The proposals were subsequently designed and publicly advertised, and plans showing the proposals are appended to this report as **Appendix A**.
- 1.5 On the 10th October 2014 residents and businesses that were perceived to be affected by the proposals, were advised of them by letter and plan. Eighteen statutory bodies were also consulted and site notices were placed at the location.
- 1.6 By the close of the consultation on the 31st October 2014, there were no responses to the proposals.

2.0 Proposed Scheme

2.1 The scheme is within the Romford Town Ward

2.2 The request was put forward to help with parking provision for local businesses, as it is now generally considered that the provision of Pay & Display parking bays is more user friendly and accessible to the public, than the Disc parking scheme, which is gradually being phased out due to popular demand.

2.3 The formal proposals are to change the existing Voucher parking restriction to a Pay & Display parking bay, operational 8.30am – 6.30pm Mon – Sat inclusive, at a cost of 20 pence for the first two hours then 50 pence for the maximum period of three hours.

3.0 Outcome of Public Consultation

3.1 On 10th October 2013, residents and businesses in the area, which were perceived to be affected by the proposals, were advised of them by letter and plan. Eighteen statutory bodies were also consulted and site notices were placed at the location.

4.0 Responses

During the statutory consultation period there were no responses received to the proposals however the schemes consultation finishes on Friday 31st October.

5.0 Staff Comments

The introduction of pay and display parking in popular local shopping areas has proved beneficial in promoting vitality in the local area and managing out commuter parking. A number of Pay and Display schemes are operating successfully in other areas in the borough serving both businesses and local community.

IMPLICATIONS AND RISKS

Financial Implications and Risks

This report is asking HAC to recommend to Lead Member the implementation of the above scheme.

The estimated cost to install the proposed Pay & Display machine as set out in this report is £4,000. The intention is to finance this from a separate capital allocation.

The costs shown are an estimate of the full costs to implement a scheme should it be ultimately implemented. It should be noted that further decisions are to be made following a full report to the Committee and with the Cabinet Member approval process being completed where a scheme is recommended for implementation.

Total costs will need to be contained within the specified budgets.

Legal Implications and Risks

The proposals of Pay & Display bay requires consultation, the advertisement of proposals and consideration of the responses before a decision can be taken on their introduction.

HR Implications and Risks

The proposal can be delivered within the standard resourcing within Streetcare, and has no specific impact on staffing/HR issues.

Equalities Implications and Risks:

Parking restrictions have the potential to displace parking to adjacent areas, which may be detrimental to others. However, the Council has a general duty under the Equality Act 2010 to ensure that its highway network is accessible to all. Where infrastructure is provided or substantially upgraded, reasonable adjustments should be made to improve access. In considering the impacts and making improvements for people with protected characteristics (mainly, but not limited to disabled people, children and young people, older people), this will assist the Council in meeting its duty under the Act.


There will be some visual impact from the required signing and lining works.

BACKGROUND PAPERS


Appendix A



George Street N
↑

Scale: 1:1000 0 5 10 15 metres
Date: 29 September 2014


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