

Report to: **Executive**

Date: **7 April 2016**

Title: **DARTMOUTH PARK AND RIDE SITE – OUT OF SEASON ARRANGEMENTS**

Portfolio Area: **Commercial Services
(Report to be presented by Cllr Gilbert)**

Wards Affected: **Dartmouth and East Dart**

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken: any recommendations will be considered at the Annual Council meeting on 19 May 2016

Author: **Cathy Aubertin** Role: **Operational Manager
(Environment Services)**

Contact: **Telephone 01083 861234/ email:
Cathy.Aubertin@swdevon.gov.uk**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive RECOMMEND to Council to approve the elimination of parking charges at Dartmouth Park & Ride site during the closed season.

1. Executive summary

- 1.1 The report requests that Members consider the recommendation to make an amendment to the South Hams Off-Street Parking Places Order in respect of Dartmouth Park & Ride car park, in order to support the community desire to increase footfall and encourage visitors and shoppers to the town during the Park & Ride closed season.

2. Background

- 2.1 In 2015, following consultation with the Dartmouth community, a pilot Park & Ride scheme was run in the town. Rather than buses running every ten minutes throughout the season, they ran every 20 minutes during school term, and every ten minutes during school holidays, when the demand is much higher. The pilot was monitored in order to establish what the impact would be on the overall cost of running the service, and in customer satisfaction.
- 2.2 Feedback from both customers and stakeholders was positive and, furthermore, the previous subsidy of up to £40,000 per annum required to support the service was eliminated.
- 2.3 Following the successful pilot, the bus contract was tendered on the same basis, and was awarded to Stagecoach in January 2016, with the service due to recommence on 25th March 2016 (Good Friday).
- 2.4 The community would like to build on this success by encouraging visitors to park at the Park & Ride site during the closed season, from November to mid-March, and then signpost those visitors to the public buses.

3. Outcomes/outputs

- 3.1 Should the Executive resolve to allow free parking during the closed season, the loss of income would equate to approximately £200 per annum, which would be made up by the savings from the new Park & Ride contract.
- 3.2 Officers will work with Dartmouth community in measuring the success of this initiative, and review as necessary.

4. Options available and consideration of risk

- 4.1 The alternative to this recommendation would be to continue to charge for parking at the Park & Ride site during the closed season, and continue to generate the small amount of income.

5. Proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 This recommendation is being proposed as a result of meetings and discussions with Dartmouth community members, including Dartmouth Town Council and BID. Both are keen to work in partnership with us to encourage more footfall in the town, and use of the Park & Ride site during the closed season.
- 5.2 Ward Members have been consulted in respect of this proposal in advance of this report.

5.3 The proposal to make this amendment to the Off-Street Parking Places Order is in line with the following priorities:

- Community well-being
- Access to services
- Towards excellence
- Customer first

5.4 The option to not proceed with the proposed amendment will have little impact for the District Council. However, Dartmouth community feels that the proposal will contribute significantly to increasing the footfall in the town and improve its vibrancy.

6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance		<p>The Council has the power to provide off-street parking under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).</p> <p>The Council has the power to deal with the provision, management and control of car parks.</p> <p>The Council has the powers to provide this service under the General Powers of Competence in the Localism Act 2011.</p>
Financial		<p>Amendments to the Off-Street Parking Place Order cost approximately £1,000 to advertise. However, due to the timing of this amendment, we may postpone the advertisement until we have other amendments, which will reduce this amount per amendment.</p> <p>The car parking budget will fund the cost of this amendment.</p> <p>This proposal will result in lost income of approximately £200. However, this is more than compensated for with the overall savings in the Park & Ride service.</p>
Risk		None
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		No implications.

Safeguarding		No implications.
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		No potential positive or negative impact on crime and disorder reduction.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		No implications.
Other implications		None.

Supporting Information

Appendices:

None.

Background Papers:

None.