

Report to: **South Hams Executive**  
Date: **20 April 2017**  
Title: **Parking Permit Review**  
Portfolio Area: **Environment Services**  
Wards Affected: **All**  
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

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

Date next steps can be taken: To be considered by the Council on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2017  
(*e.g. referral on of recommendation or implementation of substantive decision*)

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**Recommendations:**

1. That the Executive recommends to Council that the Full and Commuter parking permits be eliminated and replaced with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural parking permits, and that the Off-Street Parking Places Order is amended to reflect this.
2. Detailed amendments are as follows:
  - Full and Commuter permits to be eliminated and replaced with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural permits which will be limited to specific towns/ villages. The cost of permits to be reduced to reflect the new restrictions.
  - The costs of permits to be as detailed at Paragraph 5.3.

**1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 This report requests that Members consider the recommendation that the Full and Commuter parking permits be eliminated and replaced with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural parking permits.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1 Having recognised that the array of parking permits available had become confusing for customers and unwieldy to manage, a Task & Finish Group considered the issue with a view to simplifying and streamlining permits available, whilst improving the future management of them and protecting the District Council's income.
- 2.2 As a result of the work undertaken by the group, the following recommendations were made to Overview & Scrutiny, and ratified by Council:
- Full and Commuter permits to be eliminated and replaced with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural permits which will be limited to specific towns/ villages. The cost of permits to be reduced to reflect the new restrictions, with the exception of Business Permits.
  - Permits to become 'virtual', ie customers will no longer receive a paper permit, with the exception of Business Permits.
  - New permits be limited to one vehicle registration number only, with the exception of Business Permits.
  - The availability of permits be limited to 10% of the total number of parking bays available for each category of permit.
  - Permits currently issued free of charge to various organisations to be ceased.
  - Other permits which are not used often will be eliminated.
  - The Residents' Parking permit to be extended to allow parking from 3pm to 10am, with an increase in cost to £40.00. This amendment to be reviewed after one year.
  - The costs of permits to be amended as detailed in the report.
  - All leisure-related permits will be reviewed in partnership with the new leisure contractor, with the exception of permits currently issued to Tone Leisure employees.

## **3. Outcomes/outputs**

- 3.1 Following a public consultation exercise, most amendments were made to the Off-Street Parking Places Order and were implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> April.
- 3.2 However, enough objections were received (108) to one of the amendments to warrant returning the proposals to the Executive for further consideration. This was the proposal to limit the availability of permits to 10% of the total number of parking bays available for each category of permit.
- 3.3 However, in order to protect both the Council's income and aid with the management of the use of car parks, the proposal to eliminate Full and Commuter permits and replace them with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural permits at a reduced cost was also stopped as this proposal was intrinsically linked with the 10% limit.

- 3.4 It was considered that, without the 10% limit being implemented, the reduced cost of permits would result in many more being purchased, further limiting parking available to Pay & Display customers and compromising the Council's income.

#### 4. Options available and consideration of risk

- 4.1 Should the recommendations above be resolved, they will be the subject of a 21-day consultation period, which customers will be alerted to by a notice in the local press and on the Council's website, together with notices in all affected car parks. This will allow customers to object to the proposals, should they wish to do so. If a large number of objections is received, the matter will be referred to the Executive for further consideration.

#### 5. Revised proposed Way Forward

- 5.1 Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural permits  
In order to make permits clearer for customers, Full and Commuter permits to be eliminated and replaced with Town Centre, Peripheral and Rural permits which will be limited to specific towns/ villages.
- 5.2 The new permits would be valid in the following car parks:

<b>Town/ permit type</b>	<b>Valid in car parks</b>
Dartmouth Town Centre	Mayor's Avenue
Kingsbridge Town Centre	Quay Duncombe Park
Kingsbridge Peripheral	Cattle Market Lower Union Road
Salcombe Town Centre	Shadycombe Creek North Sands
Totnes Town Centre	Old Market Heaths Way North Street The Nursery
Totnes Peripheral	Long Marsh Pavilions Steamer Quay
Bigbury Rural	Bigbury-on-Sea
Ivybridge Rural	Leonards Road
Modbury Rural	Poundwell Meadow
Slapton & Torcross Rural	Slapton Memorial Strete Gate Torcross Tank

- 5.2 The cost of permits should be amended to reflect the new restrictions on use.
- 5.3 Cost of permits

The original recommendation included a substantial reduction in the cost of permits as it was felt that the 10% limit would ensure that the Council's Pay & Display income stream was protected. Without that limit, it is recommended that permit costs be marginally reduced, to reflect the new limits in respect of where permits may be used.

Current Modbury and Torcross commuter permits are already restricted to those individual areas plus some other commuter car parks, so it is proposed that these be renamed Rural Permits and be priced to reflect their new restrictions.

Permit type	Current cost	Proposed cost
Town Centre (previously Full)	£387.00	£365.00
Six months	£233.00	£220.00
Peripheral (previously Commuter)	£191.00	£165.00
Six months	Not available	£100.00
Rural (previously Modbury and Torcross commuter)	£191.00*	£140.00
Six months	£143.00#	£85.00
Six months	£95.00	£85.00

\*Modbury cost

#Torcross cost

## 6. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance		<p>The Council has 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>The consultation exercise will cost approximately £600 to advertise, which will be funded by the Car Parks budget.</p> <p>It is unlikely that overall parking income will be very much affected by this proposal. Although permits are reduced in price, some customers are likely to have to also pay to park in car parks where their new permit will no longer be valid.</p>

Risk		None at this stage.
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		A comprehensive impact assessment has been completed in respect of this matter which shows that there are no customers which are adversely affected.
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.