

Title: Fees and Charges 22/23 – Addendum 1

Lead Officer: Neil Bridges

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Moira-Ann Grainger and Cllr Jody Tracey

Wards of the District directly affected:

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Free car parking across **all WDC car parks** for every Sunday in December 2022.

This is with a view to support businesses within the Town Centres in Warwick District by encouraging people into the Town Centres. When this comes to Council it will include:

**(a) details of the anticipated loss of income over this period as a result.**

Last year's figures were not comparable to current use of our car parks so the latest whole month data average from October 2022 for 4 weeks was used to estimate a loss of at least £33,700.

**(b) detail of any proposal to fill that funding gap within the Council.**

Finance is monitoring the budgets for this year to review if the overall car park income compared to budgets can be financed within the service. Given the level of uncertainty linked to car park use, due to the lack of recent trend analysis data available from prior years due to the impact of COVID, and more recently with the impact of current economic challenges, the forecast for car parking income in 22/23 has already been set at reduced levels in comparison to years previous.

**(c) If a reserve is used to fund the gap this creates, the Council should also be provided detail of the risk associated with using that reserve (i.e. how will it be replenished, what chance we need that funding before replenished and the constraints imposed on that reserve).**

Similar to the answer above, if losses cannot be financed within the service, then alternative reserves will be reviewed shortly. Any deficit would in the first instance be offset against the current balance on the GF Reserve, currently forecast to be at £2.6m as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 23. Council policy is to retain a balance on this reserve of at least £1.5m.

**(d) Details of any monitoring that will be put in place to look at usage of the scheme.**

The Ranger Team will conduct a vehicle count in all our car parks to monitor the car park occupancy from the scheme.

Parking will review the impact on income received on the other days during the week around the existing agreed free parking days already offered to all Town Councils each year. This may reveal an income reduction due to changing use of our car parks because of free parking on the Sundays.

We would kindly ask if BID could provide Council with monitoring data on the impact on the high street of the scheme to provide a fuller picture too.

The opening of Riverside House Car Park free of charge has been prepared if approved on 23 November. The free parking is planned to be available between 8am and 7pm on the weekends leading up to Christmas and 8am to 6pm on Christmas Eve (shops closing a little earlier and reducing risks of vehicle lock-ins over Christmas Day.

## Report Information Sheet

<b>Committee/Date</b>	Council 23 November 2022	
<b>Title of report</b>	Minor Changes to the Constitution	
<b>Consultations undertaken</b>		
<b>Consultee *required</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Details of consultation /comments received</b>
<b>Ward Member(s)</b>		
<b>Portfolio Holder WDC &amp; SDC *</b>	23/11/22	Moira-Ann Grainger and Jody Tracey (on behalf of Moira-Ann)
<b>Financial Services *</b>		
<b>Legal Services *</b>		
<b>Other Services</b>		
<b>Chief Executive(s)</b>	23/11/22	Chris Elliott
<b>Head of Service(s)</b>	23/11/22	Steve Partner
<b>Section 151 Officer</b>	23/11/22	Andrew Rollins
<b>Monitoring Officer</b>		
<b>CMT (WDC)</b>		
<b>Leadership Co-ordination Group (WDC)</b>		
<b>Other organisations</b>		
<b>Final decision by this Committee or rec to another Ctte/Council?</b>		Recommendation to : Council
<b>Contrary to Policy/Budget framework</b>		No/Yes
<b>Does this report contain exempt info/Confidential? If so, which paragraph(s)?</b>		No/Yes, Paragraphs :
<b>Does this report relate to a key decision (referred to in the Cabinet Forward Plan)?</b>		No/Yes, Forward Plan item – scheduled for ..... (date)
<b>Accessibility Checked?</b>		File/Info/Inspect Document/Check Accessibility