

## **Appendix 4**

Following the comments made at Audit and Resources on Tuesday night officers have examined the various changes to charges discussed by members.

Officers do not believe that a reduction in the charges currently in place for 1 and 2 hour stays to a level below the on-street charges would result in an increase in the level of off-street usage and income.

Officers believe that the reason why people are parking on street is that they can now park on-street close to where they wish to visit which was never the case before the introduction of effective on-street enforcement.

A reduction in the charges to the charges charged in the long stay car parks suggested at the meeting would we believe result in a reduction in income of £35,000 for the remainder of the financial year and significantly more if we were to also adopt a 20p charge for half an hour.

Officers accept that by increasing the proposed charges for stays of 4 to 6 hours and over 6 hours above the level suggested in the report would deter people parking for those periods of stay without making a significant change to the usage of the car parks or the income generated.

However if a charge of £6 for up to 6 hours and £10 for over six hours was introduced as suggested at the meeting officers believe we should provide a credit card payments facility in those car parks where that level of charges applied. Work is currently being undertaken to consider this option but it is clear that this is likely to result in an additional cost of around £20,000.

It is therefore recommended that the current proposal for charges set out in Appendix 1 are adopted and that the suggestions made by the Audit and Resources Committee regarding potential changes in car park charges are fully investigated as part of the review of parking charges currently being carried as part of Fees and Charges report for October 2008.