

	AGENDA ITEM NO.
Report Cover Sheet	
Name of Meeting:	Executive
Date of Meeting:	11 th February 2008
Report Title:	Changes in designation of certain car park s in Warwick District.
Summary of report:	The report highlights changes in the designation of certain car parks in Warwick District to increase usage.
For further information please contact (report author);	Ian Coker – ian.coker@warwickdc.gov.uk Tel 01926 456227
Business Unit:	Neighbourhood Services
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the policy framework:	No
Would the recommended decision be contrary to the budgetary framework:	No
Wards of the District directly affected by this decision:	
Key Decision?	No
Included within the Forward Plan?	No (If Yes, include reference number)
Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006	No (If yes, include para number)
Date and name of meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number:	(If applicable)
Background Papers:	

Consultation Undertaken		
Below is a table of the Council's regular consultees. However not all have to be consulted on every matter and if there was no obligation to consult with a specific consultee they will be marked as n/a.		
Consultees	Yes/ No	Who
Other Committees		
Ward Councillors		
Portfolio Holders		
Other Councillors		
Warwick District Council recognised Trades Unions		
Other Warwick District Council Service Areas		
Project partners		
Parish/Town Council		
Highways Authority		
Residents		
Citizens Panel		
Other consultees		
Officer Approval		
With regard to officer approval all reports must be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance Services and Legal Services.		
Officer Approval	Date	Name
Relevant Director(s)		
Chief Executive		
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal		
Finance		
Final Decision?	Yes/ No	
Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)		

1. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 1.1 To recommend the re-designation of the Butts and Castle Lane car parks in Warwick from limited stay (maximum stay two hours) to short stay car parks from April 1st 2008.
- 1.2 From 1st April 2008 to offer a reduced season ticket price at St Mary's Lands Area 2 at half the price of other Warwick season tickets.
- 1.3 From 1st April 2008 introduce Sunday charging at Rosefield Street to provide managed parking for residents in the area who have purchased season tickets.

2. REASON(S) FOR THE RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 The review of off and on-street parking undertaken as part of the review of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement has shown a marked reduction in usage of the limited stay car parks in these locations.
- 2.2 By changing the designation of the Butts and Castle Lane car parks back to short stay from limited stay (maximum stay 2 hours) it is anticipated that usage of the car parks will increase and as a result this will help to support the vitality of Warwick Town Centre by offering some availability of parking for over 2 hours within the core of the town.
- 2.3 The number of season tickets in use in Warwick has increased significantly over the last 12 months. The charges for season tickets at the car park at St Mary's Lands area 2 are planned to be the same as in other more conveniently located long-stay car parks. By making the charges lower at this car park it is anticipated that some season ticket holders will re-locate to this car park freeing up season tickets at the other car parks.
- 2.4 A number of residents have purchased season tickets for Rosefield Street car park to try and provide them with parking in the area where demand is high and there is no resident parking zone. With no regulations in place on the car park on a Sunday this car park is heavily parked resulting in season ticket holders being unable to make use of their season ticket.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED

- 3.1 Not to make changes to the designation of the car parks. This was discounted on the basis that as there is now better availability of two hour on-street parking in the town centre the need to supply additional limited stay parking off-street has reduced and the off-street spaces will be of more value to as short stay spaces.
- 3.2 To keep the season ticket charges at St Mary's Land's area 2 at the same cost as other season tickets in Warwick. This was discounted to try and encourage season ticket usage in this location.

4. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK

- 4.1 The income at the Butts car parks has fallen by £3,000 during the first 9 months of this financial year.

- 4.2 By changing the designation of the Butts and Castle Lane car park to short stay from limited stay car parks on 1st April 2008 will increase the usage of the car parks by people looking for longer periods of stay in the town centre. As a result we would expect to see an increase in income back to the levels prior to the change from short to limited stay car parks in April 2007. This would generate an additional £3k. Against this, it is possible that there may be some reduction in usage of car parks elsewhere, however, it will not be possible to quantify this.
- 4.3 The reduction in season ticket costs at St Mary's Lands area 2 is a small risk as existing season ticket holders could all move to take advantage of this offer. However with demand for season tickets in other car parks exceeding supply officers believe that the overall season ticket income will increase. However, whilst the overall level of season ticket income should increase, it is possible that there will be a reduction in pay and display receipts if existing users opt to purchase season tickets.
- 4.4 The introduction of off-street regulations on a Sunday at Rosefield Street will increase income. However it will give a level of protection to local residents who have no where to park on-street given the on-street regulations which are in place. The additional income is not expected to be more than £5k.
- 4.5 It is not proposed to amend the budgeted income for these changes at this stage. The overall income will continue to be monitored throughout the year.

5. POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 5.1 The re-designation of the car parks meets the objective of making the town centre more accessible.

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The Butts and Castle Lane car parks were changed from short stay to "limited stay" (maximum stay 2 hours) in April 2007. This was to mirror the on-street restrictions in place in adjoining locations which were due to come into effect in August 2007 when DPE was introduced.
- 6.2 Initial review of the impact of DPE showed that there had been a reduction in the level of limited stay parking in the off-street car parks. This was because effective on-street enforcement meant that visitors looking for up to two hours parking were now able to find on-street parking at the same cost as was charged in the off-street limited stay car parks. Previously the only place to park for up to 2 hours was the limited stay off-street car parks.
- 6.3.1 A further review carried out in January clearly indicates that the use of off-street spaces on the Butts and Castle Lane is below 50%. As a result officers believe that to maximize the potential availability of spaces available for periods of stay of over two hours these car parks should have the two hour restriction removed, returning the car park to operate on the short stay tariff in place other short stay car parks in Warwick.

6.3.2 Usage of the car park at St Mary's Lands area 2 is low. By offering further reduction on the current season ticket cost it is hoped that this will stimulate usage freeing up existing season ticket spaces for all day parking.