

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

11 February 2014

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

ON-STREET PAY AND DISPLAY REVIEW

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To inform the Cabinet Member of investigations undertaken regarding the operation of on-street pay and display parking bays in Derbyshire and to recommend new areas and/or times for charging as listed in Appendix 1.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

As the Cabinet Member will be aware, the control of parking is of vital assistance to local businesses and shops. Where parking is uncontrolled in market towns and tourist areas there is a tendency for long term (commuter) parking to occur, excluding short term parking for those wishing to visit local shops. This has a detrimental effect on footfall and thus trade.

The use of time limited parking assists in allowing parking spaces to be available and promotes a turnaround in customers. However, for such restrictions to be successful, there is a need for effective enforcement of the limits. This has a cost. Currently, the parking enforcement service in Derbyshire is loss making without the additional income from on-street charges. It is therefore considered that where charges can be introduced without detriment to the local economy, this course should be pursued. The County Council already operates a number of on-street pay and display parking bays, namely in Bakewell, Buxton, Castleton and Chesterfield.

As part of a major review of all public services that are provided by the County Council following the continuing cuts to public spending by the Government, a review of the existing parking operations has been undertaken. This includes scope for introducing further on-street pay and display bays. The level of charges and how these will be dealt with in the future is the subject a separate report being considered by the Cabinet Member at this meeting.

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Each town and district has been considered with this mind; a summary can be found in Appendix 1.

Officers Comments

In view of the comments made in Appendix 1, it appears that there is scope for introducing on-street pay and display charges in Matlock Bath, both in terms of enhancing the economic vitality of the town and in being financially viable for the County Council to operate. There is a need to recognise the special relationship with motorcycles and to design charges, bays, etc accordingly. It would also provide a good opportunity to review the waiting times currently allowed within the limited waiting areas.

There are also some opportunities for increasing the number of bays in Buxton town centre to cater for the loss of existing spaces at The Crescent as a result of the Spa development. This would provide an increased number of parking opportunities for the benefit of visitors to the town centre. Some of the existing pay and display bays could be re-orientated to create echelon style parking bays to maximise the number of spaces available.

Castleton was the first location in Derbyshire to have on-street pay and display restrictions implemented due to the high numbers of tourists that visit. This would be an opportune time to review the times of operation of the existing charges.

Local Member Comments

The Cabinet Member has been informally consulted on this countywide issue. The relevant Local Member will be consulted at a later date.

(3) **Financial Considerations** The cost of consultation on these proposals will be met from the Traffic and Safety budget.

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(4) **Key Decision** No.

(5) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(6) **Background Papers** Held on file in the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Steve Alcock, extension 38176.

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(7) OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS That:

- 7.1 A scheme to introduce on-street pay and display restrictions in Matlock Bath be investigated.
- 7.2 Proposals to introduce amendments to the existing restrictions in Buxton town centre to maximise the number of parking spaces available be consulted upon.
- 7.3 Investigations be carried out into whether it would be feasible to extend the times that the existing on-street pay and display restrictions apply in Castleton.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

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Appendix 1

Ashbourne	Some potential, but, the nature of the town centre is not really suitable for short stay pay and display. There is a large District Council owned car park subject to charges in the town centre and a supermarket car park that also charges. May also have an adverse impact on trade.
Bolsover District	All BDC off-street car parks are free of charge. New developments in Bolsover town centre (pub and supermarket) could increase the pressure on both on-street and off-street parking. However, it is considered that any on-street pay and display bays would be left under utilised.
Chesterfield	The majority of the town centre is now covered with on-street pay and display restrictions. A proposal to introduce pay and display on the lay-by opposite the Chesterfield Royal Hospital has been shelved due to it being prohibitively expensive as the carriageway would require reconstructing to enable the required infrastructure to be installed.
Castleton	Existing on-street pay and display restrictions apply at weekends and Bank Holidays only. A recent proposal to implement some limited waiting in the village centre to help to create a better turnover of parking for the benefit of local businesses has not been pursued to date following a lack of support from the Parish Council. There could be scope for extending the times that the existing charges apply. Charges already apply on the existing off-street car parks.
Bakewell	No real scope for extending the existing on-street pay and display restrictions.
Buxton	A recent proposal to implement on-street pay and display on Burlington Road is being taken forward as limited waiting in the first instance. There are a few possibilities of increasing the amount of parking bays available in the existing pay and display areas in the town centre to cater for the loss of bays elsewhere. This will help to provide further much needed parking spaces in close proximity to town centre businesses.
Alfreton, Belper, Ripley, Heanor and Swadlincote	Presence of large supermarkets with free car parks and relatively small town centres with minimal limited waiting makes these towns difficult to justify.
Glossop	A recent parking study resulted in consideration of some residents' parking areas. However, this was not taken forward following a feasibility study. Parking is at a premium in the town centre and any pay and display charges would merely increase the competition for the remaining spaces on predominantly residential streets.
Ilkeston	Very few opportunities to implement on-street charging
Long Eaton	A single site has been identified as a possibility, but, this

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	may not be cost-effective due to the proximity of a free District Council owned car park.
Matlock	Town centre too small. Lack of alternative off-street parking facilities.
Matlock Bath	Scope for introducing on-street pay and display on North Parade/South Parade. This would enable more effective enforcement of the existing parking restrictions to take place which would ensure an improved turnover of parking for the economic vitality of local businesses. Practical implications of pay and display tickets for motorcycles needs to be borne in mind.
North East Derbyshire	All NEDDC car parks are free of charge. This coupled with the relatively small town centres would not support on-street pay and display