

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**CABINET MEMBER MEETING - JOBS, ECONOMY AND
TRANSPORT**

4 March 2014

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

PAY AND DISPLAY AT COUNTRYSIDE SITES

(1) **Purpose of the Report** To seek approval to defer the agreed price increases for lorries, coaches and vehicles towing trailers at County Council Countryside car parks.

(2) **Information and Analysis** The charges report that was approved at the meeting of 12 November 2013 unfortunately had an error in it which was that the tariffs for lorries and coaches did not include “vehicles towing a trailer”. Legally, the Council cannot increase the tariff for vehicles towing a trailer without seeking Cabinet Member approval for the increase. As the increases have to be advertised before the tariffs are increased, there is not time to do this and implement the increases before 1 April 2014.

The options are to delay the price increase for all vehicles until the situation is resolved, implement the increases for cars, lorries and coaches already approved on 1 April 2014, implement the Trailer tariff as and when it is agreed, or do not increase the tariff for lorries/coaches and vehicles towing a trailer.

The cost of advertising an increase is £858 and the cost for altering the machines themselves is in the region of £1,650. Additionally, there are some small costs (£200 - £300) for alteration to signage.

If the Council were to delay all the increases, there would be a loss of income from the newer, higher tariffs for cars etc. During April and May 2013, a total of £55,663 was received from the Pay and Display machines, therefore, given the 10% increase, this could mean a loss of £5,567 (less Vat) if implementation were delayed. Conversely, in 2013, £909 was collected from the lorries and coaches, etc, tariff so the 10% increase only represents an additional £90 per annum. Over the two year life of this new level of tariff, if not implemented, there would be a loss of £180 (less VAT). Rather than forego the increased income arrangements in April/May 2014, the necessary arrangements have been put in hand to implement the increased charges.

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Given the costs of implementing an additional change and the small income that would accrue from doing so it is recommended that the increased charge for lorries and coaches is not implemented.

(3) **Financial Considerations** As detailed within the report.

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** None. Officer contact details – Chris Coombs, extension 39821.

(7) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That approval be given to defer price increases for lorries, coaches and vehicles towing trailers at County Council Countryside Car Parks until April 2015.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment