

Equality Impact Assessment: *Parking Tariffs 2023*

The Equality Act 2010 includes a general duty which requires public authorities, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- **Eliminate discrimination**, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act.
- **Advance equality of opportunity** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- **Foster good relations** between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not

In order to comply with the general duty authorities must assess the impact on equality of decisions, policies and practices. These duties do not prevent the authority from reducing services where necessary, but they offer a way of developing proposals that consider the impacts on all members of the community.

Authorities which fail to carry out equality impact assessments risk making poor and unfair decisions which may discriminate against particular groups and worsen inequality.

| Committee name and date: | Report Title | Decisions being recommended: | People with protected characteristics potentially impacted by the decisions to be made: |
|------------------------------|----------------------|--|---|
| Executive 7 February 2023 | Parking Tariffs 2023 | Change the zoning of a number of City Centre car parks; Change the 'Premium' zone to 'Central' Extend the charge period from | Age: Changes to city centre zoning and an increase in the cost to buy a parking permit may have a negative impact on those working in the city centre. Those working in entry-level positions may not be |

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|--------------------------|--------------|--|---|
| | | <p>8am - 6pm to 8am - 10pm for all Central and Zone 1 Car Parks, and for Car parks located in Topsham from 9am - 5pm to 8</p> <p>Increase the fee to purchase a seasonal parking permit and increase the number of city centre car parks that accept a seasonal parking permit;</p> <p>Increase the fee to purchase a discounted business and residential parking permit;</p> <p>To charge for events held in City Council car parks;</p> <p>Introduce a fee for the electricity used through Electric Vehicle charge points in City Council car parks;</p> <p>Charge electric vehicles for residential parking permits;</p> <p>From the additional income achieved, £100,000 is set aside for maintenance and improvements to city centre car</p> | <p>able to afford to park in the city centre.</p> <p>Religion & Belief: Changes to extending the charging period to 10pm may impact those who attend religious evening services within city centre.</p> |

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|--------------------------|--------------|--|---|
| | | parks, as well as carbon reduction measures. | |

Factors to consider in the assessment: For each of the groups below, an assessment has been made on whether the proposed decision will have a **positive, negative or neutral impact**. This must be noted in the table below alongside brief details of why this conclusion has been reached and notes of any mitigation proposed. Where the impact is negative, a **high, medium or low assessment** is given. The assessment rates the impact of the policy based on the current situation (i.e. disregarding any actions planned to be carried out in future).

High impact – a significant potential impact, risk of exposure, history of complaints, no mitigating measures in place etc.

Medium impact – some potential impact exists, some mitigating measures are in place, poor evidence

Low impact – almost no relevancy to the process, e.g. an area that is very much legislation led and where the Council has very little discretion

| Protected characteristic/ area of interest | Positive or Negative Impact | High, Medium or Low Impact | Reason |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---|
| Race and ethnicity (including Gypsies and Travellers; migrant workers; asylum seekers). | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |
| Disability: as defined by the Equality Act – a person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment that has a substantial and long-term adverse impact on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities. | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |
| Sex/Gender | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |
| Gender reassignment | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |

| Protected characteristic/ area of interest | Positive or Negative Impact | High, Medium or Low Impact | Reason |
|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Religion and belief (includes no belief, some philosophical beliefs such as Buddhism and sects within religions). | N/A | Low | Changes to extending the charging period to 10pm may impact those who attend religious evening services within city centre. |
| Sexual orientation (including heterosexual, lesbian, gay, bisexual). | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |
| Age (children and young people aged 0-24; adults aged 25-50; younger older people aged 51-75/80; older people 81+; frail older people; people living with age related conditions. The age categories are for illustration only as overriding consideration should be given to needs). | Negative | Medium | Changes to city centre zoning and an increase in the cost to buy a parking permit may have a negative impact on those working in the city centre. Those working in entry-level positions may not be able to afford to park in the city centre. |
| Pregnancy and maternity including new and breast feeding mothers | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |
| Marriage and civil partnership status | N/A | Low | Changes to city centre zoning and parking permits does not have an impact on this particular protected characteristic |

Actions identified that will mitigate any negative impacts and/or promote inclusion

Work with particular sectors and businesses located within the city centre to highlight Seasonal Parking Permits to businesses and employees, that there is a more affordable option, rather than buying a daily parking ticket.

Inform places of worship located within the city centre the extension on the parking period within the city centre.

When updating notice boards within car parks, highlight what parking fees pay for across the City Council.

Officer: Victoria Hatfield

Date: 6 January 2023