

**JOINT MEETING - CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT,
PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION AND THE CABINET MEMBER FOR
STREETPRIDE SERVICES**

**Venue: Room 1, 3rd Floor,
Bailey House,
Rawmarsh Road,
ROTHERHAM. S60 1TD**

Date: Thursday, 29th April, 2010

Time: 2.00 p.m.

Please note the date, start time and venue for this meeting

A G E N D A

1. To determine if the following matters are to be considered under the categories suggested in accordance with Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended March 2006) to the Local Government Act 1972.
2. To determine any item which the Chairman is of the opinion should be considered later in the agenda as a matter of urgency.
3. Car Parking - Freedom of the Borough Parade - 23rd June, 2010. (report attached) (Pages 1 - 2)
Martin Beard, Parking Services Manager, to report.
 - to consider car parking arrangements and charging.

The following item was authorised for consideration as an extra, urgent item:-

4. Petition regarding fee parking. (report attached) (Pages 3 - 5)
Martin Beard, Parking Services Manager, to report.
 - to consider the response to the petition.

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS
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1.	Meeting:	Economic Development, Planning and Transportation Cabinet Member and Streetpride Cabinet Member
2.	Date:	29 April 2010
3.	Title:	Parking proposals for the Regimental Parade on 23rd June, 2010.
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report gives details of the proposals for parking arrangements for the Regimental Parade, through the Town Centre, by the Yorkshire Regiment on 23rd June, 2010.

6. Recommendations

- a) Cabinet Members approve the proposals for amendments to parking restrictions for 23rd June, 2010.**

7. Details

It is proposed that a march through the Town Centre will be undertaken by the Yorkshire Regiment on 23 June 2010.

Meetings have been held which have resulted in the following proposals for parking arrangements:

- The coaches carrying the troops will park on Mansfield Road. The “on-street” parking bays on Mansfield Road will be cordoned off until the coaches have been parked. There is expected to be a maximum of four coaches.
- Douglas Street car park to be closed to the public for the duration of the event to ensure that the troops can utilise the car park to “form up”.
- All parking in the Town Centre to be free after 10am to the public on 23rd June.

8. Finance

The loss of pay and display income will be approximately £2,000, no budget provision has been made for this.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

- The access to Douglas Street car park is also used by Norton Finance for access to their private parking area. Alternative parking may have to be offered, for example in Wellgate multi storey car park, for that day only.
- The Job Centre is located on Douglas Street and the public car park is extremely well used. Notwithstanding advertisement of a road closure, there is likely to be a significant number of members of the public driving around the area, looking for alternative parking, when they find the road closed.
- Prime parking locations (e.g. Drummond Street) are likely to be taken by vehicles belonging to people who work in the town centre and will pay for parking up to 10am and the vehicles will remain there all day.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

N/A

11. Background Papers and Consultation

N/A

Contact Name: Martin Beard – Parking Services Manager
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ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Economic Development, Planning and Transportation Cabinet Member and Streetpride Cabinet Member
2.	Date:	29 April 2010
3.	Title:	Petition regarding free parking
4.	Programme Area:	Environment and Development Services

5. Summary

This report gives details of and responds to a petition, presented to the Council by Jackie Whitely, the Conservative Party Parliamentary Candidate, asking for the first two hours parking to be free in Rotherham Town Centre.

6. Recommendations

- a) **That Cabinet Members do not accede to the petition, and parking charges remain as set out in the report approved on 1 March 2010.**

7. Details

The petition, containing 402 signatures, suggests that "...parking should be free for the first 1 to 2 hours in order to encourage people and businesses back into the town centre."

In planning terms, the Yorkshire and Humberside Regional Transport Strategy (RTS) requires that local authorities should support the use of public transport and demand management measures by adopting a consistent approach to parking policy across the region and sub region. It does, however, also include a reasonable caveat that suggests parking charges should be linked to the strength of the local economy. To this end, a number of initiatives have already been introduced that are within the spirit of the RTS i.e. they maintain charges at peak hours when they are most needed to manage parking demand and turnover, and also encourage people to travel by car when demand is lower in the weekday or when their journey has less impact on congestion and the environment (Saturdays). The initiatives include:

"Free after 3" parking scheme - This scheme was introduced in May 2009 and has recently received funding to continue during the whole of 2010 / 2011.

Free parking on Saturdays - This scheme commenced on 17 April 2010 and funding has been received for the scheme to continue during the whole of 2010 / 2011.

Maximum stay parking bays - A number of parking places have been amended with regard to maximum stay times. This includes both the Wellgate multi storey car park and the Interchange (with the co-operation of SYPTE). This action has been taken to maximise the number of parking activities thereby generating a quicker turnover of customers.

Free Bee – Free bus linking Parkgate Shopping with the town centre

The above initiatives have been well received amongst many town centre businesses although Bus Operators have been less welcoming of measures they see as indirectly subsidising the costs of private car users. The free parking suggestion, if implemented, would undermine the viability of the public transport network in Rotherham and cost the Council approximately £1.1 million in lost parking revenue. This figure is achieved by the following calculation:

	£
Off-street parking income	596,000
On-street parking income	216,000
Permit income	166,000
PCN income	93,000 (for overstays, no p & d, etc)

These figures are taken from the projected outturn figures for the 2009 / 10 financial year.

There could also be a detrimental effect on jobs within Parking Services as the workload and staffing requirements would need to be reassessed. A loss of income on this scale could not be contained within Streetpride with a hugely detrimental impact onto other services.

8. Finance

The loss of income to the Council would be approximately £1.1 million; this could not be sustained within Streetpride, EDS or the Council without cuts to other services.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

In reducing costs to motorists, the Council needs to be mindful of its Local Transport Plan commitments towards public transport and sustainable travel modes and the potential adverse impact on our relationships with neighbouring towns, bus operators and the non-car owning public who may equally ask for similar transport subsidies.

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The suggested free parking would not support aims of the Local Transport Plan. It could adversely influence modal shift, by promoting more use of cars rather than public transport.

11. Background Papers and Consultation

The Council's Transportation Unit within Environment and Development Services has been consulted.

Contact Name: Martin Beard – Parking Services Manager
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