

## Summary Sheet

### Council Report

Improving Places Select Commission 25 November 2015

### Title

Preliminary Investigations into Car Parking in Rotherham Town Centre.

### Is this a Key Decision and has it been included on the Forward Plan?

No

### Strategic Director Approving Submission of the Report

N/A as the paper is a discussion paper for the Commission.

### Report Author(s)

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### Ward(s) Affected

Town Centre

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this preliminary investigation, undertaken by Members as part of a Task & Finish Group, is:

- to provide recommendations to the Advisory Cabinet and to the Commissioners on car parking in the Town Centre.
- to provide information and recommendations to the Improving Places Select Commission to inform discussion on whether a detailed review is required.

A range of differing priorities across the various Council departments meant formulating a clear line on parking provision was difficult and currently no overall written policy for car parking is in place.

## Recommendations

That the Improving Places Select Commission receives the preliminary findings on Car Parking in Rotherham Town Centre and accepts the recommendations identified in the attached report.

**List of Appendices Included**

Appendix 1 Preliminary Investigations into Car Parking in Rotherham Town Centre

**Background Papers**

N/A

**Consideration by any other Council Committee, Scrutiny or Advisory Panel**

No

**Council Approval Required**

No

**Exempt from the Press and Public**

No

## **Title Preliminary Investigations into Car Parking in Rotherham Town Centre**

### **1. Recommendations**

- 1.1 **That the Improving Places Select Commission receives the preliminary findings on car parking in Rotherham Town Centre and accepts the recommendations identified in the attached report.**

### **2. Background**

- 2.1 The purpose of this preliminary investigation is to provide recommendations to the Advisory Cabinet and to the Commissioners on car parking in the Town Centre. The anticipated outcome from this report is to provide information and recommendations to the Improving Places Select Commission to inform a discussion on whether a detailed review is required.
- 2.2 It is part of a series of reviews being undertaken by Members of Improving Places Select Commission.
- 2.3 Town centre parking charges (and enforcement activity) generate significant income for the Council. They also have the potential to deter shoppers and visitors to the town centre, particularly in light of increasing alternative out-of-town retail sites offering free car parking.

### **3. Key Issues**

- 3.1 Section 3 in the appendix sets the context for the review work including the impact of parking charges for encouraging sustainable transport and of parking charges and the local economy, especially for town centre and out of town retailing, showing the complexity of the issue.

### **4. Options considered and recommended proposal**

- 4.1 Section 4 in Appendix 1 sets out the key findings from this initial work from the task and finish group.

### **5. Consultation**

- 5.1 Parking decisions historically have been informed by a range of information available to officers. Previous consultation includes a 2012 shopper survey which indicated that town centre customers had little issue with the quantity of parking or the cost of parking and its location. There is also regular two way contact with local businesses.

## **6. Timetable and Accountability for Implementing this Decision**

6.1 This will depend on the response to the recommendations in the main report by the Commission.

## **7. Financial and Procurement Implications**

7.1 None at this stage but any future changes to parking policy and provision could impact upon income generation and the local economy.

## **8. Legal Implications**

8.1 N/A

## **9. Human Resources Implications**

9.1 N/A

## **10. Implications for Children and Young People and Vulnerable Adults**

10.1 Nothing specific at this stage but general safety and road safety links in with transport and parking policies.

## **11. Equalities and Human Rights Implications**

11.1 None at this stage but parking policies need to take account of equality protected characteristics, such as meeting the needs of disabled people.

## **12. Implications for Partners and Other Directorates**

12.1 As indicated above parking policy impacts on other policy areas.

## **13. Risks and Mitigation**

13.1 None at this stage.

## **14. Accountable Officer(s)**

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Approvals Obtained from:-

Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services:- N/A

Director of Legal Services:- N/A

Head of Procurement (if appropriate):- N/A

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