

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Environmental Services

Date of Meeting: 6th April 2010
Report of: Head of Safer and Stronger Communities
Subject/Title: Civic Hall Car Park and Dysart Buildings Car Park,
Nantwich: Proposal to Change the Maximum “Pay and
Display” to 5 Hours

1. Report Summary

- 1.1 This report proposes the amendment of the Borough of Crewe and Nantwich (General) (Off Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) (Minor) Order 2008 (‘the Order’) the effect of which will be to change the maximum length of stay on Civic Hall Car Park and Dysart Buildings Car Park, Nantwich to 5 hours.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services approves that
- (1) subject to statutory consultation, a proposed amendment be made to the Borough of Crewe and Nantwich (General) (Off Street Parking Places) (Consolidation) (Minor) Order 2008 (as amended to comply with the Traffic Management Act 2004), the effect of which will be to change the maximum length of stay on Civic Hall Car Park and Dysart Buildings Car Park, Nantwich to 5 hours;
 - (2) the proposed charging regime for these two car parks is to be in line with current charge levels as follows: Monday to Saturday inclusive: 8am to 6pm: 1 hour: 70p; up to 2 hours: £1.00p; up to 4 hours: £1.50; up to 5 hours: £2.20, Sunday 8am to 6pm free (subject to approval of Notice of Variation to reduce the Sunday charge to £0.00 at this meeting. The current charge is 50p all day.);
 - (3) the proposed amendment be advertised for the statutory period of 21 days and any objections be considered by the Cabinet Member at a subsequent meeting; and
 - (4) should no objections to the proposal be received, the proposed Order be made and brought into force and notice thereof be given in accordance with statutory requirements.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 These car parks are now considered more suitable as shorter stay car

parks because they are adjacent to the new Health Centre, Market, Civic all, the private auction house, and the town centre. Visitors to all of these facilities require easy access to car parking for limited periods only rather than all day. Even more customers now seek to park here for less than 5 hours, since the building of the Health Centre.

- 3.2 As the two car parks are adjacent, they should have the same charging and length of stay. Thus it is proposed to alter the length of stay on Dysart Buildings' car park from 2 to 5 hours, and on Civic Hall from 10 to 5 hours.
- 3.3 The proposal should be considered simultaneously with that for Snow Hill Car Park in which the maximum stay is to be lengthened from 5, to 10 hours to absorb long stay customers displaced from Civic Hall and Dysart.
- 3.4 The net effect of the changes in both this and the Snow Hill proposal together, will be to increase the total number of bays available for from 1 to 10 hours' stay from 304 to 406 bays.
- 3.5 The proposed charging regime is to be in line with current charge levels as follows: Monday to Saturday inclusive: 8am to 6pm: 1 hour: 70p; up to 2 hours: £1.00p; up to 4 hours: £1.50; up to 5 hours: £2.20, Sunday 8am to 6pm free (subject to approval of Notice of Variation to reduce the Sunday charge to £0.00 at this meeting. The current charge is 50p all day).

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 Nantwich

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Councillors B Dykes, A Martin, A Moran

6.0 Policy Implications including - Climate change, Health

- 6.1 This accords with the parking and charging strategy approved by Cabinet in April, such that improving control of traffic access and circulation may reduce carbon emissions and improve air quality.

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

- 7.1 N/A

8.0 Financial Implications 2009/10 and beyond (Authorised by the Borough Treasurer)

- 8.1 Minimal impact on income is expected though some net increase may be expected from increase in short stay customers with reduced long stay custom. Expenses for the alteration of signs, machines, and for advertising should not exceed £500.

9.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 9.1 Changing the maximum stay of these Car Parks requires the proposing and making of an amendment order to amend the General Off Street Parking Places Order, the procedure for which is as set out in the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (of which statutory consultation and publication of proposals is a requirement).
- 9.2 Should the Cabinet Member approve the necessary amendment to the Off Street Parking Places Order in respect of Civic Hall and Dysart Buildings Car Parks, it must then be advertised for a period of 21 days and any objections received subsequently submitted to the Cabinet Member again for consideration. If consideration of objections result in the member deciding to amend the proposal, then the amended proposal will have to be advertised again.

10.0 Risk Management

- 10.1 If this change is not made there is a risk that current traffic, pedestrian flow, and parking difficulties in the town, will worsen.

11.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues

- 11.1 Some customer confusion may result from the change in the short run. Parking Services will make every effort to ensure that customers are informed of the change to regime both here and on Snow Hill to achieve as smooth a transformation of the offer as possible.

12.0 Access to Information

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