

## BOROUGH OF KETTERING

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<b>Report Originator</b>	Martin Hammond Executive Director	Fwd Plan Ref No: A18/008	
<b>Wards Affected</b>	ALL	11 <sup>th</sup> July 2018	
<b>Title</b>	<b>REFERRAL FROM RESEARCH &amp; DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE- REQUEST TO REVIEW THE CAR PARKING CHARGING STRATEGY</b>		

### CHAIR OF R & D COMMITTEE: CLLR D BAIN

#### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To relay a request from the Research and Development Committee that the *“Executive Committee reviews and revises downwards the cost of car parking charges in Kettering town centre”*.

#### 2. INFORMATION

- 2.1 In November 2017, the Executive Committee received a report on car parking charges, following the Finance Portfolio Holder’s commitment that the current car parking strategy would be looked at, and form part of the 2018/19 budget process.
- 2.2 A new car parking charging strategy was approved at that meeting by members of the Executive Committee, in effect the new strategy made parking for longer periods more flexible (and cheaper) by introducing new price bands.
- 2.3 On 4<sup>th</sup> April 2018, the Research & Development Committee (R&D) resolved to consider the car parking charging strategy at its next meeting. A report was prepared giving a high level overview of the current car park strategy and considering the impact of a reduction in charges. That report is attached as Appendix A.
- 2.4 Although the whole report attached at Appendix A is relevant, it is particularly worth noting the following paragraphs from it:

*2.5 Members of the Executive were also reminded that any change in strategy needs to ensure that the overall income yield remains at least the same. However any future reductions in parking charges would be likely to have an adverse impact on the overall yield e.g. a 10% change in parking charges would equate to a loss of income of around £61,000. Subsequently this would need to be financed through either ongoing reductions in expenditure or an increase in ongoing income. It would not be prudent for the reduction in income to be met through one off sources i.e. use of reserves.*

*2.6 This approach is in line with Financial Golden Principle ‘d’, which is reproduced below for ease of reference:  
‘Should the Council decide to allocate significant additional/new funding to a specific service – it should identify where the required funding is coming from (or compensating savings are to be made).’*

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2.5 Having considered the issue at their meeting of 12<sup>th</sup> June 2018, the research & Development Committee resolved the following:

“To request that based on the manifestos for both the administration and opposition at the 2015 Borough Council elections, the executive Committee reviews and revises downwards the cost of car parking charges in Kettering town centre”.

### **CONSULTATION AND CUSTOMER IMPACT**

3.1 There is no direct impact on customers as a result of this report, but there may be an impact depending on the course of action to be taken by the Committee.

### **3. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

4.1 None as a result of this report, again, there may be an impact depending on the course of action to be taken by the Committee.

### **4. FINANCIAL RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

5. Given that R&D did not make any specific proposals, it is not possible at this stage to comment about the financial implications of any change. However, given the sizeable savings targets already embedded in the Council’s medium term budget, if any changes were to be considered they would either need to be self-financing within the overall income budget for car parking or specific savings would need to be identified in other budgets.

### **6. HUMAN RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 None

### **7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 None

### **8. RECOMMENDATION**

8.1 That the Executive Committee considers whether or not it wishes to act upon the recommendation from the Research and Development Committee in respect of the cost of car parking charges in Kettering town centre.

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Background Papers: None

Previous Minutes/Reports: Report to Executive  
“Maintaining a Durable Budget”

Ref: A17/007

Date: 15.11.17