

CABINET

8th November 2021

USE OF EXISTING FREE PARKING DAYS FOR DECEMBER 2021

Purpose: To consider permitting free parking days to be taken in the month of December in 2021 as an exception to support towns during the Covid-19 pandemic

Recommendations/key decisions required:

To approve the extension of free parking in December during 2021 only.

Reasons:

To support the economic recovery of our towns during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Relevant scrutiny committee to be consulted NO

Exec Board Decision Required YES

Council Decision Required NO

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr Hazel Evans

Directorate Environment
Name of Head of Service:
Stephen Pilliner

Designations:
Head of Transportation and
Highways

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CABINET
8TH NOVEMBER 2021**

USE OF EXISTING FREE PARKING DAYS FOR DECEMBER 2021

BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

The COVID pandemic has caused disruption to our town centres as adjustments to daily life have been required to keep people safe. Whilst our town centres are starting to recover, the disruption since March 2020 has continued to restrict the opportunities for town centres to use many of the free days parking that the Council makes available to support events in town centres across the County.

The Council's current policy provides for five free parking days each year to support town centres. The policy currently excludes the trading period of December. The Council has been approached by some town centres to request that December is included in the offer this year due to the exceptional circumstances caused by the COVID19 pandemic.

The Council supported town centres with free parking from March to September last year and with the continuation of the free parking pilots in place at each town. The latest request would help provide further support at this difficult time.

In a normal year there would be an additional budget impact of circa fifteen thousand pounds over the typical cost of forty thousand pounds accounted for by the existing policy.

It is proposed that Cabinet supports the slight variation to our existing policy as a one-off exception to apply in 2021 only, by including December within the period when the free days can be used by our town centres.

Recommendation. That the extension of free parking days into December be approved for 2021 only.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

No

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **S Pilliner** Head of Transportation & Highways

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
None	None	YES	None	None	None	None

Finance

The financial implications are included within this report.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: **S G Pilliner** Head of Highways & Transportation

1. **Scrutiny Committee** N/A
2. **Local Member(s)** N/A
3. **Community / Town Council** N/A
4. **Relevant Partners** N/A
5. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** N/A

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Executive Board held on the 1 st July 2013	Minute 8 refers	