

## Statement of Reasons

### Proposals

#### *On street:*

Southend-on-Sea City Council intend to make the following amendments to on street provisions:

- Amendments to parking fees and charges
- Re-designation of tariff zones and associated charges
- Evening charges to be capped at £5 per night (between 6-9pm)
- New Winter tariff for Zone 1A to be introduced during the months of November, December, January
- All day parking charges capped at £17(Zone 1B)/£20(Zone 1A) on the central seafront
- All day parking charges capped at £10 outside of the central seafront
- Southend Pass subscription costs to be frozen, with the removal of the existing three-month payment option
- The following have been introduced:
  - Resident Permit - Company Vehicle
  - Visitor Vouchers (Virtual/Electronic Book of 20)
  - Commuter Tariff (Daily)
- Inflationary increases applied on permits and season tickets

#### *Off street:*

Southend-on-Sea City Council intend to make the following amendments to off street provisions:

- Amendments to parking fees and charges
- Re-designation of tariff zones and associated charges
- Evening charges to be capped at £5 per night (between 6-9pm)
- Evening charges at Shorefield Road and Cliffs Pavillion car parks to be made consistent with the rest of Zone 1A
- New Winter tariff for Zone 1A to be introduced during the months of November, December, January
- All day parking charges capped at £17(Zone 1B)/£20(Zone 1A) on the central seafront
- All day parking charges capped at £10 outside of the central seafront
- Southend Pass subscription costs to be frozen, with the removal of the existing three-month payment option
- Free parking to remain in selected off-street car parks serving shopping areas, on Sundays during the month of December
- University Square car park to be open later, up to 12midnight, to accommodate parking needs within the City Centre and will be chargeable up to 12midnight
- Inflationary increases applied on permits and season tickets

### Reasons

The Council regularly reviews its parking fees and charges, in conjunction with monitoring transactional and financial income data.

The primary reason for charging for parking is to effectively manage kerb-side space and demand, in both central on-street locations and car parks as well as residential and business areas. Effective parking management will aim to support wider transport policy objectives, ensuring that on and off-street space is used more effectively.

Effective management of parking provision is recognised as making a significant contribution to reducing congestion, whilst supporting access to residents, visitors and businesses.

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Parking charges need to be set at a level which facilitates local use and demand and at a level which will ensure the effective management of parking provision by prioritising access to the local community and promoting a sustainable and vibrant local economy. These proposals are expected to further encourage footfall and visitors to the city beyond existing levels, whilst ensuring charges are applied consistently and fairly across Southend, as the proposals may also help customers make more informed decisions about where, when and for how long they park.

These proposals include the re-designation of the existing tariff zones and associated charges and that they are established in a way that simplifies the charging levels dependent on location and demand, with University Square car park remaining open later, up to 12midnight, to accommodate parking needs within the City Centre and will be chargeable up to 12midnight.

Additional reasons include;

- Supports the council's network management duty under the Traffic Management Act 2004.
- To cover the ongoing expenses incurred in the effective management of parking, including monitoring and enforcement of parking restrictions and the operation and maintenance of associated assets and facilities within the City.
- To ensure that the Council continues to effectively manage the demand for parking within the City to ensure that residents, businesses, and visitors receive the best parking service from the Council.
- Account for inflationary increases .

Any income generated from on-street parking charges will be utilised to effectively manage parking in the first instance. Any surplus generated by the operation of the on-street parking service is used for other improvements in traffic management, highway improvements, environmental improvements, and subsidised and concessionary transport. This is in accordance with the current legislation and associated regulations.

For further information please see The Southend-on-Sea City Council Cabinet Paper of 19<sup>th</sup> December 2024 (link below) which includes agenda item number 5, Parking Fees and Charges;

[\(Public Pack\)Agenda Document for Cabinet, 19/12/2024 18:00](#)

### Legislation

Charges for on-street parking can be varied by Notice under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Section 46a and compliance with Part V, Section 25 of The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. Due to additional changes being required for both on and off-street provisions, as set out in the proposal section of this document, an amendment Order for on-street, and separate amendment Order for off-street, will cover all changes proposed, including the increased charges element.

The specific grounds with which the Council are using for the implementation of the proposals are encompassed in Sections 1, 2, 4, 32, 35, 44, 45, 46, 46A, and 124(1)(d) and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

In considering whether to make this Order, Southend-on-Sea City Council has had regard to all relevant matters including its responsibility pursuant to Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended), to secure so far as practicable the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians), and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway having regard to the matters specified in Section 122(2).

## Statement of Reasons

### **Equality Act 2010, Section 149**

Consideration has been given to the equalities duty of Southend-on-Sea City Council.