

The purpose of Aberdeen City Council is to protect the people and the place of Aberdeen from harm, enabling them to prosper and supporting them in the event of harm happening.

The purpose of an Integrated Impact Assessment is to evidence that Aberdeen City Council are making decisions in an informed way, and that the impact of decisions made is understood and accepted. The legislation that is considered within this assessment are:

- Section 2 Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics
- Section 3 Socio-Economic
- Section 4 Human Rights
- Section 5 Children and Young People's Rights

The term 'policy' is used throughout this document and applies to policies, proposals, strategies, provision, criteria, functions, practice, budget savings and activities that includes delivery of our services.

1. About the Policy

1.1 Title

Increase the Hours that On-Street and Off Street Parking is Charged for, to include Sunday 8am to 1pm

1.2 What does this policy seek to achieve?

To review the existing parking policy with regards to free parking on Sundays and recommend that Sunday charges are implemented to match those of other days of the week in city centre areas. This will result in parking charge hours being increases to include between 8am and 1pm where they are currently only between 1pm and 5pm.

1.3 Is this a new or existing policy?

Update on an existing policy however this is not a document but rather a series of Committee agreements

1.4 Is this report going to a committee?

Yes

1.5 Committee name and date:

Full Council – 6th March 2024

1.6 Report no and / or Budget proposal number and / or Business Case reference number:

OSR-08

Impacts

This section demonstrates the considerations that have been made in relation to the policy - and that the impact of proposals made is understood and accepted.

2: Equality Act 2010 - Protected Characteristics

Aberdeen City Council wants to ensure everyone is treated fairly. This section identifies the <u>protected</u> <u>characteristics</u> that the policy potentially affects and records the impact and mitigating steps.

2.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below groups?

| | | What is the impact? | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------|---------------------|-----|---------|----------|--|
| | | Negative | | Neutral | Positive | |
| Protected Characteristic | High | Medium | Low | | | |
| Age | | Х | | | | |
| Disability | | Х | | | | |
| Gender Reassignment | | | | Х | | |
| Marriage and Civil Partnership | | | | Х | | |
| Pregnancy and Maternity | | | | Х | | |
| Race | | | | Х | | |
| Religion or Belief | | Х | | | | |
| Sex | | | | Х | | |
| Sexual Orientation | | | Х | | | |

2.2 In what way will the policy impact people with these protected characteristics?

The policy considers that this will impact those of religious belief that attend services on Sunday morning. This may displace parking further away from the destinations which will have a larger impact on those with mobility issues, including older citizens. Older people can often be prevalent in the congregation of a church. Younger people may also visit for services or Sunday School. There may be impact on groups accessing support services or social gatherings at hubs that are may only be staffed at weekends.

2.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations?

Chief Officers from all other services have had sight of all budget options being put forward.

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy (e.g. citizens, community groups, or other people/groups)?

2.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

| What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)? | | | |
|---|--------|---|--|
| People over 60, under 22 or with disability can apply for free bus travel. | | | |
| Those with a blue badge can continue to park for free within car parks and controlled parking zones. | | | |
| Those who can only travel by car, would be required to pay parking charges or could park out with the | | | |
| CPZ in the peripheral areas free of charge. | | | |
| | | | |
| With mitigations in place, what is the new overall rating | High | | |
| of the negative impact(s)? | Medium | Х | |
| | Low | | |

Negative Impact Removed

3: Socio-Economic Impacts

This section is used to consider the impact of the policy on people who might be **unemployed**, **single parents**, people with lower **education** or **literacy**, **looked after children**, those with **protected characteristics** as examples.

Use this guide to understand more on socio-economic inequalities: <u>The Fairer Scotland Duty: Guidance for</u> <u>Public Bodies (www.gov.scot)</u>

| Group | Negative | | | | |
|--|----------|--------|-----|---------|----------|
| Group | | Medium | Low | Neutral | Positive |
| Low income / income poverty – those who cannot afford regular bills, food, clothing payments. | | Х | | | |
| Low and/or no wealth – those who can meet basic living costs but have no savings for unexpected spend or provision for the future | | X | | | |
| Material deprivation – those who cannot access basic goods and services, unable to repair/replace broken electrical goods, heat their homes or access to leisure or hobbies | | Х | | | |
| Area deprivation – consider where people live and where they work (accessibility and cost of transport) | | X | | | |
| Socio-economic background – social class, parents' education, employment, income. | | Х | | | |

3.1 What impact could this policy have on any of the below groups?

3.2 In what way will the policy impact people in these groups?

Those on low income or in areas of deprivation will be negatively impacted as this would place cost where they wish to park in the controlled zones on a Sunday.

3.3 What considerations have been made in reaching the above assessment?

What internal or external data has been considered? What does this data tell us?

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with officers and partner organisations? Chief Officers from all other services have had sight of all budget options being put forward.

What consultation and engagement and has been undertaken with people who may be impacted by this policy? citizens, community groups, or other people/groups impacted by this policy?

3.4 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?

This may impact people travelling into work on a Sunday morning/ evening, where public transport is not an option (e.g. time or point of origin). Options exist to park on the periphery of the city centre where no charges are in place on a Sunday throughout the day/ evening with the remainder of the journey on foot/ bike.

| With mitigations in place, what is the new overall rating | High | |
|---|-------------------------|---|
| of the negative impact(s)? | Medium | |
| | Low | х |
| | Negative Impact Removed | |

4: Human Rights Impacts

The Human Rights Act 1998 sets out the fundamental rights and freedoms that everyone in the UK is entitled to. It incorporates the rights set out in the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) into domestic British law. The Human Rights Act came into force in the UK in October 2000

The Act sets out our human rights in a series of 'Articles'. Each Article deals with a different right.

Use this guide to understand more about <u>Human Rights</u>.

4.1 What impact could this policy have on Human Rights?

| Human Rights Article | Negative | Neutral | Positive |
|---|----------|---------|----------|
| Article 6: <u>Right to a fair trial</u> | | Х | |
| Article 7: No punishment without law | | Х | |
| Article 8: Right to respect for private and family life, home and | | Х | |
| <u>correspondence</u> | | | |
| Article 9: Freedom of thought, belief and religion | Х | | |
| Article 10: Freedom of expression | | Х | |
| Article 11: Freedom of assembly and association | | Х | |
| Article 12: Right to marry and start a family | | Х | |
| Article 14: Protection from discrimination in respect of these rights and | | Х | |
| freedoms | | | |
| Article 1 of Protocol 1: Right to peaceful enjoyment of your property | | Х | |
| Article 2 of Protocol 1: Right to education | | Х | |
| Article 3 of Protocol 1: Right to participate in free elections | | Х | |

4.2 In what way will the policy impact Human Rights?

The current parking policy allows for free parking on Sunday mornings when some religious establishments hold services, thereby allowing free parking for those attending services. This provision is not made on other days of worship

4.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)?

Whilst the proposed change of policy will mean that some attendees at religious services will have to pay for parking, it is noted that those with a blue badge can park for free at anytime and that many congregation members will be local to the church. Also, organisations are encouraged to produce Travel Plans which support their congregation to make sustainable travel choices e.g. public transport, car sharing or active travel.

The current changes to the city centre traffic management and the future changes to the streetscape support the improvement of active and public transport opportunities for those accessing the city centre at any time, providing some mitigation to the parking policy changes.

| If mitigations are in place, does this remove the | No – negative impact remains | Х |
|---|-------------------------------|---|
| negative impact? | Yes – negative impact reduced | |
| | Yes - negative impact removed | |

5: Children and Young People's Rights Impacts

The United Nations Convention has 54 articles that cover all aspects of a child's life and set out the civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights that all children everywhere are entitled to. It also explains how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights.

Children's rights apply to every child/young person under the age of 18 and to adults still eligible to receive a "children's service" (e.g. care leavers aged 18 – 25 years old).

The Conventions are also known as the "General Principles" and they help to interpret all the other articles and play a fundamental role in realising all the rights in the Convention for all children. They are:

- 1. Non-discrimination (Article 2)
- 2. Best interest of the child (Article 3)
- 3. Right to life survival and development (Article 6)
- 4. Right to be heard (Article 12)

You can **<u>read the full UN Convention (pdf)</u>**, or **just a summary (pdf)**, to find out more about the rights that are included.

| UNCRC and Optional Protocols | Negative | Neutral | Positive |
|--|----------|---------|----------|
| Article 1: definition of the child | | Х | |
| Article 2: non-discrimination | | Х | |
| Article 3: best interests of the child | | Х | |
| Article 4: implementation of the convention | | Х | |
| Article 5: parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities | | Х | |
| Article 6: life, survival and development | | Х | |
| Article 7: birth registration, name, nationality, care | | Х | |
| Article 8: protection and preservation of identity | | Х | |
| Article 9: separation from parents | | Х | |
| Article 10: family reunification | | Х | |
| Article 11: abduction and non-return of children | | Х | |
| Article 12: respect for the views of the child | | Х | |
| Article 13: freedom of expression | | Х | |
| Article 14: freedom of thought, belief and religion | Х | | |
| Article 15: freedom of association | | Х | |
| Article 16: right to privacy | | Х | |
| Article 17: access to information from the media | | Х | |
| Article 18: parental responsibilities and state assistance | | Х | |
| Article 19: protection from violence, abuse and neglect | | Х | |
| Article 20: children unable to live with their family | | Х | |
| Article 21: adoption | | Х | |
| Article 22: refugee children | | Х | |
| Article 23: children with a disability | Х | | |
| Article 24: health and health services | | Х | |
| Article 25: review of treatment in care | | Х | |
| Article 26: social security | | Х | |
| Article 27: adequate standard of living | | Х | |
| Article 28: right to education | | Х | |
| Article 29: goals of education | | Х | |
| Article 30: children from minority or indigenous groups | | Х | |

5.1 What impact could this policy have on the rights of Children and Young People?

| Article 31: leisure, play and culture | X | |
|--|---|--|
| Article 32: child labour | X | |
| Article 33: drug abuse | X | |
| Article 34: sexual exploitation | X | |
| Article 35: abduction, sale and trafficking | X | |
| Article 36: other forms of exploitation | X | |
| Article 37: inhumane treatment and detention | X | |
| Article 38: war and armed conflicts | X | |
| Article 39: recovery from trauma and reintegration | X | |
| Article 40: juvenile justice | Х | |
| Article 41: respect for higher national standards | X | |
| Article 42: knowledge of rights | X | |
| Optional | X | |
| Protocol on a Communications Procedure | | |

5.2 In what way will the policy impact the rights of Children and Young People?

Some impact to children who may be attending religious / cultural classes at weekends within the car parking zones.

5.3 What mitigations can be put in place?

| What mitigations are there against any negative impacts (if applicable)? | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| N/A | |
| | |
| | |
| If mitigations are in place, does this remove the | No – negative impact remains |
| negative impact? | Yes – negative impact reduced |
| | Yes - negative impact removed |

6: Sign Off

Any further positive or negative impacts on individuals or groups that have been considered? None

Overall summary of changes made as a result of impact assessment. None

Outline of how impact of policy will be monitored.

The success of this policy is challenging to quantify. The Local Transport Strategy seeks to reduce vehicle numbers on the road network and any additions to parking restrictions can support this. Improvements to public transport and active travel network maintain the accessibility of the city centre for all purposes. Success could be seen as income from a Council asset, increase of public transport use or a reduction in traffic on the network however with the extent of changes on the network as a whole, this would be impossible to credit to this policy only.

If there are any remaining negative impacts after mitigation, what is the justification for why this policy should proceed.

The changes to parking charges seek to address the change to parking requirements that now exist due to modern retail and hospitality offerings. Shops and restaurants now open on a Sunday morning to meet a demand from shoppers and visitors. The parking management arrangements proposed seek to maximise the benefit of on-street and off-street parking places, with priority to residents, blue badge holders and providing turnover of spaces for local businesses. This also provides an additional income from Council assets. This change will have a potential impact on older and younger visitors to the city centre, and those on low incomes who work in or visit the city centre at times when parking isn't charged. Options remain for people to use public transport, active travel or to park out with the city centre area.

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|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Date | 16 th February 2024 |
| Chief Officer | Mark Reilly |
| Date | 16 th February 2024 |