

Environment Committee, item 9

Committee: Environment

Date: 23 January 2007

Title: **Car Park Machines and Payment Methods**

Author: **Les Scott, Civil Enforcement Manager**

Agenda Item

9

Item for
decision

Summary

This report seeks agreement to the recommendation of the Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement Task Group for the implementation of a rolling replacement programme for the existing Pay & Display ticket machines.

Recommendations

That the Environment Committee agree the recommendations of the Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement Task Group that

- 1 The existing Metric Pay and Display machines in the Council's car parks are replaced with Cale Briparc Pay and Display machines over a 3 year rolling replacement programme.
- 2 Each car park has 1 or more Pay and Display machines with a "Park Smart" facility to allow parking payment to be made with a Smartcard.
- 2 Officers further investigate the provision of mobile phone parking and report back to this committee on the practical and financial implications.

Background Papers

Parking Review report to and minutes of the meeting of the Environment & Transport Committee – 7th November 2006

Minutes of the Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement Working Group – 4th December 2006

Impact

Communication/ Consultation	Any new arrangements will be communicated to users through appropriate means
Community Safety	There are no safety concerns
Equalities	There are no equality issues
Finance	The financial implications are set out in the replacement programme
Human Rights	There are no Human Rights issues
Legal implications	Contractual arrangements with machine suppliers would be dealt with by the Council's legal section and within Contract

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	and Standing Order guidelines
Ward-specific impacts	Parking has district-wide service implications
Workforce/ Workplace	There are no extra implications

Situation

- 1 The Environment Committee required the Decriminalisation of Parking Task Group and officers to consider and report on the practicalities of choosing new Pay & Display machinery and report back to this Committee.
- 2 Currently, our 11 car parks have installed a total of 28 Pay and Display ticket machines which require replacement. These machines are now requiring continuous maintenance due to their age and are becoming less and less cost-effective.
- 3 The Environment Committee also required the Decriminalisation of Parking Task Group to look at additional tariffs.

Options for Pay & Display Machines

- 3 Officers have researched three Pay & Display machines and presented a programme for replacing current machines to the DPE Task Group. It is proposed to change the machines over in 3 phases:
 - Great Dunmow to be completed by 1 April 2007
 - Saffron Walden and Stansted less Swan Meadow to be completed by 30 April 2007
 - Swan Meadow to be completed by 30 April 2008
- 4 Tenders had been sought from three suppliers and the preferred company was Cale Briparc. Its machines appear to be the most reliable, easy to use and cost effective. For a cost of £9 per machine per month, a complete back office Internet link would be provided to each machine which would give officers all the necessary financial and performance information.
- 5 At least 1 machine per car park can be upgraded to allow a "Smart Park" payment facility. This would involve extra cost which has been requested. This facility would allow the customer to load a smartcard obtained from UDC to be used as an electronic purse. The card could be loaded by phone or via the internet by use of a credit or debit card. Once the Smart Card is inserted into the Pay & Display machine, the card is credited with the amount loaded. As payments are made for parking, the amount is deducted from the Smart Card. Officers predict that this scheme may take time to be taken up by customers.

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Payment by mobile phone

- 6 This option is available through a company called Verrus who are already operating in Salisbury, Cardiff, Cheltenham, York and Colchester. Officers will continue to monitor this operation in Colchester BC to obtain feedback and advice on the implementation and take up of the scheme and will report back to this Committee.

Tariff Review

- 7 The DPE Task Group and Officers recommend that once the first 2 phases of replacement machines are complete, tariffs should be reviewed with the view of providing additional tariffs.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Ticket Machine costs increase over the three year replacement period	Medium	Medium	Arrangements have been made with the supplier for them to hold the price of the machine unless large inflationary increases are incurred
Supplier goes out of business	Low	Medium	Payments will not be made until machines are installed