

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	ENTERPRISE, PLANNING & INFRASTRUCTURE
DATE	6 November 2012
DIRECTOR	GORDON McINTOSH
TITLE OF REPORT	Garthdee Controlled Parking Area- Permit Charges
REPORT NUMBER:	EPI /12/233

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report advises the Committee that the current legal agreement with Robert Gordon University to meet the administration and enforcement costs for the Controlled Parking area within Garthdee expired on the 30th September 2012 and that consideration should be given to the introduction of charges for residents permits.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

That the committee ;

- a) Approve the introduction of residential parking permit charges for the existing Garthdee controlled parking area in line with existing peripheral parking areas.
- b) Instruct officers to amend the Garthdee Controlled Parking Traffic Regulation order through the legislative process to include the agreed permit charges

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There will now be an ongoing revenue cost to this council for the administration, enforcement and maintenance of the existing Garthdee controlled parking area for which there is no budget allocation. In order to meet budget expectations it would be necessary to apply a charge for residential permits

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None at this time

5. MAIN ISSUES

- 5.1 The controlled parking area within the Garthdee area has now been operational for 10 years and was implemented to support sustainable transport objectives for travel to the RGU campus and to protect the residential environment / amenity of Garthdee from indiscriminate commuter parking.
- 5.2 The need for the controlled parking area was recognised within the Transportation Assessment submitted in support of the planning application for the expansion of the Garthdee campus and implemented in line the approved planning conditions.
- 5.3 In association with the planning permission RGU entered into a legal agreement that required that they meet the administration and enforcement costs for the zone for a period of 10 years. The legal agreement expired at the end of September 2012 and concluded RGU's obligations in this respect.
- 5.4 Since the introduction of the controlled parking area residents have not been charged for the issue of residential parking permits as there have been no direct costs to this council in relation to the administration of permits and enforcement of the parking restrictions.
- 5.5 The costs for the administration and enforcement of the controlled parking area will now have to be borne in full by this council. It is considered that given the current financial constraints that in order to meet the costs associated with the issue of permits and enforcement that it would be prudent to introduce charges for permits in line with those for the other peripheral controlled parking areas at Foresterhill and Old Aberdeen.
- 5.6 The residents within the Garthdee area have an entitlement to two permits per house in line with the other similar areas. At present an average of 1100 residential permits have been issued for the area with many issued to residents who have available off street parking but also choosing to take up the option for permits. Should charges be introduced it is reasonable to assume that the demand for permits will diminish with only those requiring on street parking applying for permits when existing permits expire. However experience at Foresterhill following the introduction of charges for residential permits has shown an overall increase in demand for permits.
- 5.7 It is thought that there is an element of abuse of the existing permit system related to parking at the university campus and it is considered that the introduction of permit charges may assist in the reduction of this abuse.
- 5.8 In conclusion it is proposed that in order to off set the cost associated with the operation of the Garthdee controlled parking area that residential parking permit charges, in line with the existing peripheral areas (the

current annual charge for permits within the peripheral zones is £80 for the first permit and £120 for the second) be introduced.

6. IMPACT

Corporate - This report links to the Service Plan for Enterprise, Planning & Infrastructure Strategic Priorities 4(4), 4(5) & 5(2)

Public - This report is likely to be of interest to the public as it involves a potentially significant alteration to a junction on one of the main arterial corridors in the city.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Consultees comments

Councillor Angela Taylor – *has been consulted 02/10/12*

Councillor Gordon Townson – *has been consulted 02/10/12*

Councillor Ian Yuill – *has been consulted 02/10/12*

Council Officers

Barry Jenkins, Head of Finance, Corporate Governance – *has been consulted*

Jane MacEachran, Head of Legal and Democratic Service – *has been consulted*

Ciaran Monaghan, Head of Service, Office of Chief Executive – *has been consulted*

Gordon McIntosh, Director of Enterprise, Planning and Infrastructure – *has been consulted*

Hugh Murdoch, Head of Asset Management and Operations, E,P and I – *has been consulted*

Margaret Bochel, Head of Planning & Sustainable Development – *has been consulted*

Mike Cheyne, General Manager, Operations – *has been consulted*

Neal Carnegie, Community Safety Manager – *has been consulted*

Dave Young, Account Manager, Corporate Governance – *has been consulted*

Laura Watson, Service Co-ordinator E P & I

Mark Masson, Committee Services Officer