

REPORT TO: PLANNING & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE – 3 DECEMBER 2001

REPORT ON: LICENSING OF OFF STREET CAR PARKS

REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION

REPORT NO: 730-2001

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To prepare the necessary procedures to introduce a system of Licensing of Off Street Car Parks in accordance with Control of Off Street Parking (Scotland) Order 1979.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to approve the designation of the Dundee City Council area as a “controlled area” as per the aforementioned regulations.
- 2.2 To instruct the Directors of Support Services and Planning & Transportation to consult with commercial operators of car parks who levy a charge or require payment in kind for the facility in order that the objectives of the licensing system can be introduced in an equitable manner.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 Any costs associated with the administration of the scheme will be offset from the introduction of a licence fee.

4 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no Local Agenda 21 implications associated with this report.

5 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no equal opportunities implications associated with this report.

6 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 The provision of quality car parking facilities within the city is a major determining factor in the economic wellbeing of the city along with enforcing the positive image of Dundee as a vibrant, safe and well kept city.
- 6.2 Whilst accepting the majority of car parking facilities open to the public are of a reasonable standard, it is important that both the public and private sector providers understand and strive to deliver the quality product expected by the public at large.
- 6.3 The City Council recently undertook an audit of off street parking facilities and found that some car parks have been formed on derelict sites with unauthorised access arrangements which are below acceptable standard in this regard and that of surface and pedestrian safety.
- 6.4 The Control of Off Street Parking (Scotland) Order 1979, gives the Council the powers to control areas such as:
- a the period of its duration, that is to say, whether it is a permanent licence or a licence for a limited period and, if for a limited period, the period for which it is granted;
 - b the maximum number of parking spaces to be provided at the licensed parking place for all, and, if the local authority think fit, for any respectively, of the following descriptions of

- parking, namely short term parking, long term parking, casual parking and regular parking or any particular category of regular parking;
- c any conditions in addition to those specified in Article 8 of this Order subject to which the licence is granted, being such conditions, if any, as the local authority may think fit with respect to all or any of the following matters, namely:
- i the scale of charges, or the minimum charges or the maximum and minimum charges, to be made for the use of parking spaces at the licensed parking place for all or for any respectively, of the descriptions of parking referred to in paragraph (b) above;
 - ii the proportion of parking spaces to be available respectively for casual parking and for, or for any specified category of, regular parking;
 - iii the times of opening and closing of the licensed parking place for the reception of vehicles;
 - iv the manner in which users of the licensed parking place are to be informed of the effect of the terms and conditions of the licence;
 - v the keeping by the operator of the licensed parking place as respects all, or as respects any respectively, of the descriptions of parking referred to in the said paragraph (b) of records showing for each day the number of vehicles using parking spaces at the licensed parking place and the sums received by way of charges for the use of those parking spaces.
- 6.5 Whilst this legislation is silent on the matter of Secure Parking Awards it is hoped that with the cooperation of the car parking providers and with the assistance of the Council and the Police that most of the car parks could be brought up to this standard within a 3 year horizon.

7 CONSULTATIONS

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Support Services, Director of Corporate Planning, and the Chief Constable, have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

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16 November 2001

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