

ITEM No ...3.....

REPORT TO: CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – 23 NOVEMBER 2015
REPORT ON: CHANGES TO CITY CENTRE RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEME
REPORT BY: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CITY DEVELOPMENT
REPORT NO: 308-2015

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of the report is to seek approval for a series of proposed changes to the City Centre Resident Parking Permit Scheme.

2 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee approve the following amendments to the City Centre Resident Parking Permit Scheme and commence preparation of a variation to the associated Traffic Regulation Orders.

- a allow entitled city centre residents to apply for more than one permit per household and allow all residents of Houses in Multiple Occupancy in the city centre to apply for a permit;
- b city centre permit holders will no longer be allowed to park in on-street Pay & Display bays for longer than the stated maximum stay, but will still be permitted to park in any off-street car park within the defined area;
- c the terms of entitlement and qualifying would remain the same (ie Council Tax record and Vehicle Registration document for the address that the application is made from), but, for all company cars, a signed letter from the company confirming the sole keepers use of the vehicle and, for lease vehicles, a signed agreement with the keepers name would if necessary suffice as an alternative to the Vehicle Registration document; and
- d no further temporary permits to be issued with immediate effect as full qualification documentation should be received for all city centre resident parking permit applications to qualify.

2.2 It is also recommended that officers be remitted to bring back to Committee proposals for:

- a a consultation exercise to commence in January 2016 on the possible incorporation of Westport, Ladywell Avenue (East), Wishart Place, parts of the Hilltown and other areas to the north up to Dudhope Terrace/Constitution Street into the Controlled Parking Zone for the City Centre to allow residents to apply for a permit; and
- b a consultation exercise on the creation of an additional residents parking zone covering the City Quay area.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 There is likely to be increased income to the Council associated with the implementation of the proposed changes to the scheme due to an increased number of passes being issued, although at present this cannot be accurately estimated.

4 BACKGROUND

4.1 The Council currently operates a Resident Parking Scheme in the City Centre, whereby permit holders may park in any off-street car park and any on-street Pay & Display parking

space at any time of the day. A permit costs £73.50 annually and there is a limit of one permit issued to each household. There has been a growing demand for residents to extend the eligibility to more than one vehicle per household and to occupiers of HMOs and, therefore, it is proposed that the scheme be amended to allow for these additional users.

- 4.2 There are a significant number of complaints from members of the public and city centre traders about the number of on-street parking spaces taken up on a long term basis by permit holders. This is having a detrimental effect on the turnover of parking spaces and consequently on levels of retail trade within the main shopping core in the city centre. It is, therefore, proposed that permit holders are no longer entitled to use of these spaces for longer than the stated maximum stay and that they are instead encouraged to use the available off-street car parks including the Council's multi-storey car parks which have 24 hour security.
- 4.3 The verification of proof of address and vehicle ownership by permit applicants is absolutely crucial to ensure that the scheme is fully auditable and resistant to fraud; however, some applicants have difficulty providing a Vehicle Registration document because they either lease their vehicle or it is provided by their employer. It is, therefore, proposed in future that formal written confirmation from a lease hire company or employer will be sufficient to prove that the applicant is the keeper of the vehicle.
- 4.4 A large number of Temporary Permits currently have to be issued due to problems such as those outlined in paragraph 4.3 above and this raises concerns regarding potential fraud. Given the proposed relaxations on verification, it would not be appropriate for further Temporary Permits to continue to be issued and it is proposed that this practice be suspended.
- 4.5 There are areas adjacent to the city centre which are experiencing pressure from overspill commuter parking and there have been requests from the residents of these areas to implement a residents parking scheme in order to provide for their legitimate parking needs. It is, therefore, recommended that officers draw up draft proposals for these areas and bring these back to Committee and seek authority to consult with local residents.

5 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 This Report has been screened for any policy implications in respect of Sustainability, Strategic Environmental Assessment, Anti-Poverty, Equality Impact Assessment and Risk Management. There are no major issues.

6 CONSULTATIONS

- 6.1 The Chief Executive, the Executive Director of Corporate Services and Head of Democratic and Legal Services have been consulted and are in agreement with the contents of this report.

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 None.

Mike Galloway
Executive Director of City Development

Neil Gellatly
Head of Roads & Transportation

NHG/SE/KM

10 November 2015

Dundee City Council
Dundee House, Dundee