

Report for Resolution

Report to	Norwich Highways Agency Committee 22 January 2009	Item 9
Report of	Head of Transportation and Landscape	
Subject	On Street Pay and Display Bays and Parking Permits – Level of Charges	

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to consider whether the current levels of charges for on street pay and display bays and parking permits are appropriate.

Recommendations

Members are recommended to:

- (1) ask the Head of Transportation and Landscape to review the level of charges for on street pay and display bays and parking permits on an annual basis, reporting to this committee each January;
- (2) agree that at the current time there should be no increase in the level of charges for both on street pay and display bays and parking permits.

Financial Consequences

The financial consequences of this report are expected to be neutral.

Strategic Priority and Outcome/Service Priorities

The report helps to meet the strategic priority “Strong and prosperous city – working to improve quality of life for residents, visitors and those who work in the city now and in the future” and the service plan priority to regularly review on street parking charges.

Contact Officers

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Background Documents

None

Report

Background

1. In 2002 when civil parking enforcement came into operation in Norwich, charges were introduced for parking on street within the City Centre, with a tariff set just above those of off-street car parks to reflect the convenience of on street parking. In 2007 the level of these charges were reviewed, as they had slipped behind those of off street car parks.
2. In 1993, the first controlled parking zone was introduced, and since then new zones have been introduced and extended. The charges for the various permits available were set in 1993 and have only been reviewed once since then, in 2007.
3. To ensure that the charges for both the on street pay and display bays and the parking permits are appropriate it is suggested that an annual review be carried out.

On Street Pay and Display Bays

4. Short stay pay and display parking is available on some City centre streets, with the hours of operation, permitted length of stay and parking charges dependent upon the location of the parking place within the city centre. These bays generated £557k of income in 2007/08
5. For the purposes of on street parking charges the City centre has been split into two areas, the core, which consists of the St Giles, Castle and Cathedral sub-zones and the secondary area, which consists of St Augustine's, St Paul's, St Mary's, St Clement's, St Julian's, St John's and St Peter's sub-zones. A plan showing the sub-zones is appended as Appendix 1.
6. On street parking in the core area is currently charged at 40p for 15 minutes (£1.60 per hour), whilst the secondary area is charged at 20p for 15 minutes (80p per hour). There is no charge on Sundays or during the evening and at night.
7. The table attached as appendix two shows the current levels of charges for off street parking in the City Centre. This shows parking in the core area is charged between £1 and £2 per hour, while in the secondary area it is charged at between 80p and £1.40 an hour. These prices have not risen since the off-street parking charges were last reviewed in May 2007.
8. If on street prices were to be increased then the minimum increase would have be 5p per 15 minutes, as 5p is the lowest denomination coin that the pay and display machines can accept. If the same differentials between the core area and the secondary area were to be retained then the new tariffs would be 50p per 15 minutes (£2.00 per hour) in the core area and 25p per 15 minutes (£1.00 per hour) in the secondary area. This represents a 25% increase.
9. An analysis of the changes in pay and display income shows that when the last price rise was introduced in September 2007 the overall income from the pay

and display machines increased by approx 10-15% depending on the month, despite the increase in charges being 33%. This suggests the price increase put some drivers off using the pay and display bays and therefore a 25% increase in fees would not result in a 25% increase in income. There would also be a charge of £15k to update the pay and display machines with the new signage.

10. Given the current economic climate, and the fact that the off-street charges have not increased since the on street charges were last increased, it is suggested there should be no increase in the level of charges for the on street pay and display bays at the current time.

Parking Permit Charges

11. In May 2007 it was agreed that the level of parking permit fees should be increased for the first time since 1993, as part of the proposal to charge for residents parking permits by vehicle length. These charges for annual¹ permits were set as follows

- £16 for small cars (under 3.92m length);
- £22 for medium cars (between 3.92 and 4.45m length)
- £30 for large cars (over 4.45m length);
- £100 for business permits and statutory permits
- £22 for visitor and community carer permits
- 100% discount for Alternative Fuel Vehicle private cars

12. These charges represented an average of 25% increase over the previous price for permits.

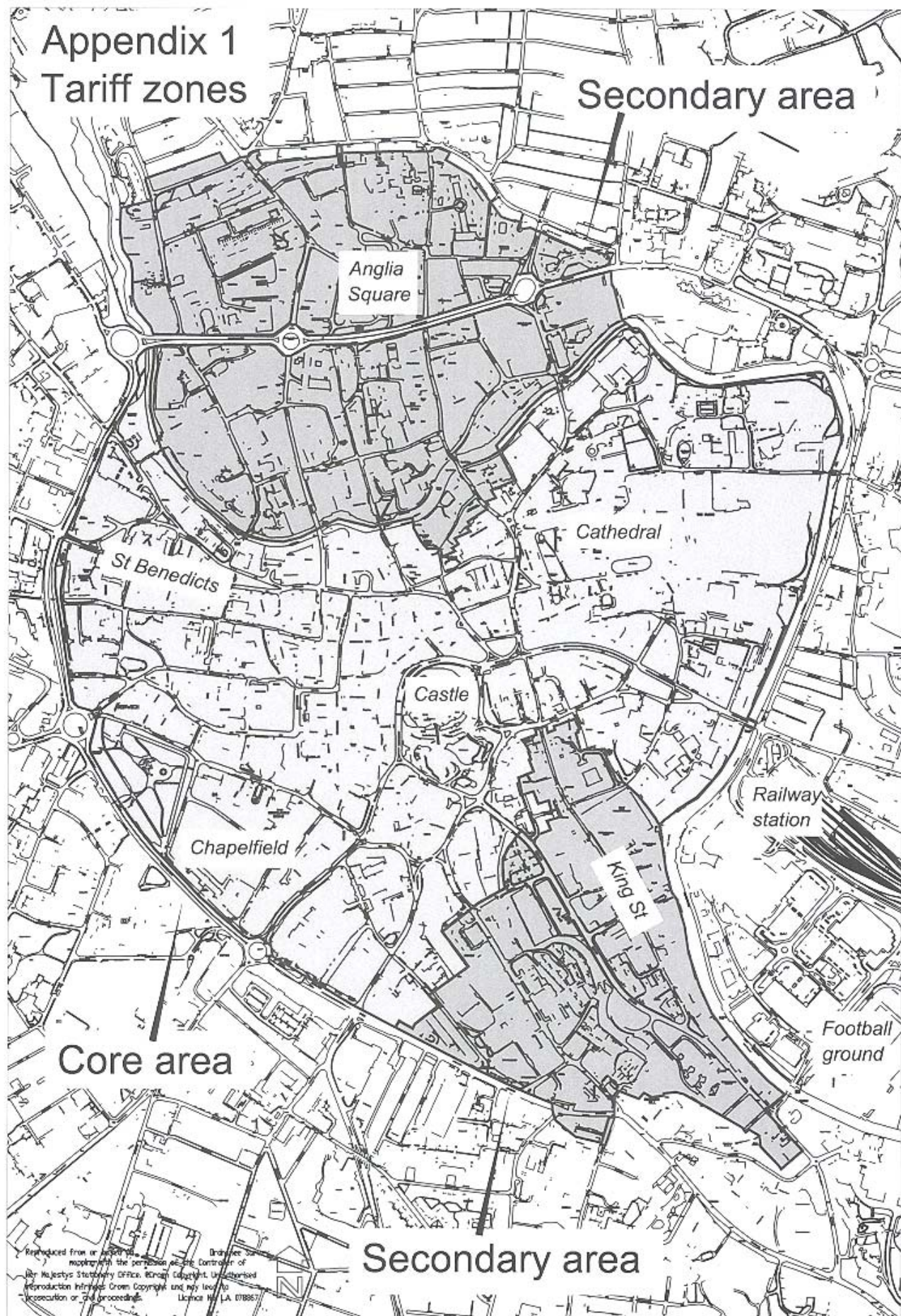
13. Following delays with updating the permit issuing software the revising pricing structure was introduced on 8 May 2008. As permits can be issued for up to 18 months, many residents will still not have paid the increased rate for their permit. It is therefore suggested that it is premature to implement any further price change at the current time.

References

Report and minutes to Norwich Highways Agency Committee from 24 May 2007 for both on street charging and residents parking permits.

¹ 6 and 18 month permits are available at pro-rata costs.

Appendix 1 Tariff zones



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Appendix 2 – Off Street Parking Tariffs

	Daytime						Evenings
	1 hr	2 hr	3 hr	4 hr	5 hr	5 hrs+	18.30 – 05.00
Core							
NCP Queens Road	2.00	3.00	4.50	6.00		8.00	Special flat rate after 6.00 p.m. £3.00
Monastery Court	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	8.00	15.00	1.60
Chapelfield (P&D)	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	8.00	15.00	1.60
St Giles	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	8.00	15.00	1.60
Chantry	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	8.00	15.00	1.60
Pottergate	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	8.00	15.00	1.60
St Andrews	1.20	2.40	3.60	4.80	5.00	5.00	1.60
Rose Lane	1.20	2.40	3.60	4.20	4.20	4.20	1.60
The Castle Mall	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	6.00	10.00	
Chapelfield (centre)	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.00	8.00	20.00	Special flat rate after 3.00 p.m. £1.50
John Lewis	1.00	2.00	3.00	4.50	8.00	11.00+ ²	
Secondary							
St Helens Wharf	1.40	2.80	4.20	5.60	7.00	7.00 ³	1.60
Riverside	1.20	1.80	2.60	3.20	3.60	6.60 ⁴	
Westwick Street	1.30	2.60	3.90	4.00	4.00	4.00	1.60
Barn Road	£1.10 per hour or part of an hour						1.60
Queens Road	£1.10 per hour or part of an hour						1.60
Rouen Road	£1.10 per hour or part of an hour						1.60
Colegate	£1.10 per hour or part of an hour						1.60
Magdalen Street	90p	1.80	2.70	3.60	4.00	4.00	1.60
Mariners Lane	80p	1.60	2.40	3.20	3.50	3.50	1.60
St Crispins	80p	1.60	2.40	3.00	3.00	3.00	1.60

² John Lewis charges a reduced rate for customers to their store.

³ £15 for 10+ hrs

⁴ Reduced rates for rail passengers