

Aberdeenshire Council

Integrated Impact Assessment

Budget Savings 24-25 Car Parks - Absorption of Pressures

Assessment ID	IIA-001894
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1. Overview

This document has been generated from information entered into the Integrated Impact Assessment system.

Our current car parking charges were set in June 2019 and implemented in September of that year.

A reduction in demand coupled with high inflationary pressures means that the projected income for 2024/25 of £620,805 is well short of the budgeted £833,400.

The proposal would see car parking charges introduced to some car parks which are currently free and a 25-30% across-the-board increase to our standard car park charges.

During screening 2 of 10 questions indicated that detailed assessments were required, the screening questions and their answers are listed in the next section. This led to 2 out of 5 detailed impact assessments being completed. The assessments required are:

- Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty
- Town Centres First

In total there are 0 positive impacts as part of this activity. There are 5 negative impacts, of these negative impacts, 0 have been mitigated and 5 cannot be mitigated satisfactorily.

A detailed action plan with 2 points has been provided.

This assessment has been approved by alan.wood@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

The remainder of this document sets out the details of all completed impact assessments.

2. Screening

Could your activity / proposal / policy cause an impact in one (or more) of the identified town centres?	Yes
Would this activity / proposal / policy have consequences for the health and wellbeing of the population in the affected communities?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect greenhouse gas emissions (CO2e) in the Council or community and / or the procurement, use or disposal of physical resources?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the resilience to extreme weather events and/or a changing climate of Aberdeenshire Council or community?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have the potential to affect the environment, wildlife or biodiversity?	No
Does the activity / proposal / policy have an impact on people and / or groups with protected characteristics?	No
Is this activity / proposal / policy of strategic importance for the council?	Yes
Does this activity / proposal / policy impact on inequality of outcome?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's rights?	No
Does this activity / proposal / policy have an impact on children / young people's wellbeing?	No

3. Impact Assessments

Children's Rights and Wellbeing	Not Required
Climate Change and Sustainability	Not Required
Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty	No Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated
Health Inequalities	Not Required
Town Centre's First	No Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated

4. Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty Impact Assessment

4.1. Protected Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Age (Younger)		Yes		
Age (Older)		Yes		
Disability		Yes		
Race		Yes		
Religion or Belief		Yes		
Sex		Yes		
Pregnancy and Maternity		Yes		
Sexual Orientation		Yes		
Gender Reassignment		Yes		
Marriage or Civil Partnership		Yes		

4.2. Socio-economic Groups

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Low income			Yes	
Low wealth		Yes		
Material deprivation		Yes		
Area deprivation		Yes		
Socioeconomic background		Yes		

4.3. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Low income	<p>A reduction in free town centre car parking and an increase in parking charges will be a disproportionately negative impact on those on a low income</p> <p>Can be mitigated No</p> <p>Justification Charges will apply to all users</p>

4.4. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
External Data	Equality Evidence Finder	Costs associated with transport impact on low income households	Reduction in free spaces and increase in charges will have an impact on low income households

4.5. Engagement with affected groups

No engagement has been carried out at this stage. Review of the car parks order will require committee reporting and scrutiny at that stage

4.6. Ensuring engagement with protected groups

No engagement has been carried out at this stage

4.7. Evidence of engagement

No engagement has been carried out at this stage

4.8. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

Charges will apply to all users

There is a requirement to set a balanced budget

4.9. Improving Relations

Advertise the changes

4.10. Opportunities of Equality

It does not

5. Town Centre's First Impact Assessment

5.1. Local Factors

Indicator	Positive	Neutral	Negative	Unknown
Town centre assets		Yes		
Footfall			Yes	
Changes to road layouts		Yes		
Parking			Yes	
Infrastructure changes		Yes		
Aesthetics of the town centre		Yes		
Tourism		Yes		
Public safety		Yes		
Town centre business			Yes	
Cultural heritage and identity		Yes		
Social and cultural aspects		Yes		

5.2. Negative Impacts and Mitigations

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Footfall	<p>Increase in car parking charges may encourage shoppers to favour locations with free car parking such as supermarkets, reducing footfall in town centres</p> <p>Can be mitigated No</p> <p>Justification No mitigation</p>
Parking	<p>Introduction of further charges and increases in price may discourage use of town centre car parks adding pressure to already limited on street parking</p> <p>Can be mitigated No</p> <p>Justification No mitigation is possible</p>
Parking	<p>Introduction of further charges and increases in price may discourage use of town centre car parks adding pressure to already limited on street parking</p> <p>Can be mitigated No</p> <p>Justification No mitigation</p>

Impact Area	Details and Mitigation
Town centre business	<p>Increase in car parking charges may encourage shoppers to favour locations with free car parking such as supermarkets, reducing footfall in town centres and negatively impacting on town centre business.</p> <p>Can be mitigated No</p> <p>Justification No mitigation</p>

5.3. Evidence

Type	Source	It says?	It Means?
Internal Data	Car Parking Team	Usage figures are already lower than compared to pre covid and patrols already report in appropriate parking	Charges in car parks can potentially divert vehicles to park on street

5.4. Overall Outcome

No Negative Impacts Can Be Mitigated.

On street parking enforcement is not currently within the remit of the Council

There is a requirement to set a balanced budget

6. Action Plan

Planned Action	Details
Reduction of free spaces in car parks with current charging	<p>Lead Officer John Bruce</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Monday April 01, 2024</p> <p>Planned Finish Wednesday May 01, 2024</p> <p>Expected Outcome Increase in income</p> <p>Resource Implications None</p>
Review of Car Parks Order to facilitate increase in charges and extension of pay regime	<p>Lead Officer John Bruce</p> <p>Repeating Activity No</p> <p>Planned Start Monday April 01, 2024</p> <p>Planned Finish Friday June 28, 2024</p> <p>Expected Outcome Increase in charges and increase in number of spaces where charges apply</p> <p>Resource Implications Will add a pressure to the Roads Policy and Asset Management Team. Work on other Policy development will be delayed</p>