

<b>CAR PARKING, SUNDAY CHARGING IN DECEMBER</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> November 2018</b>
<b>TO: ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE</b>	
<b>FOR DECISION</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	Protecting the Environment
<b>Outcome</b>	Protect, enhance and promote opportunities for greater enjoyment of our natural environment
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Head of Capital Projects, Energy & Infrastructure
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	

## **Background**

As part of Local Government Reform the Northern Ireland Executive agreed that the ownership of off-street car parks, their management and enforcement should transfer from the DRD to Councils on 1st April 2015.

As part of the transfer Council also inherited the authority to charge in The Mall and Abbey Street Car Parks on Sundays during November and December between 1pm – 6pm which is detailed within the Off Street Parking Order (N.I.) 2000.

Historically, from 2006, DRD (now Department for Infrastructure) charged for parking in The Mall and Abbey Street during the month of December in the run up to Christmas and enforcement was in place via kiosk/barriers 2006-2012 and Traffic Attendants 2012-2014.

Council also received numerous complaints during December 2015 and 2016 about vehicles parked out of bay causing obstruction in both Abbey Street and The Mall car parks.

In light of these complaints, a decision was taken to implement charging on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> December 2017 and our agency partners DFI were contacted and enforcement was requested.

The aim of charging was to encourage vibrancy at locations closest to the retail core of the town centre (The Mall & Abbey Street) and long stay parking at the peripheral locations. Free parking on a Sunday remains available in the other Coleraine Car Parks, Long Commons, Railway Road, Railway Place, Waterside, and Millburn Road.

Enforcement was also required to ensure the disabled bays were being used by valid disabled badge holders.

### Financial Breakdown

Revenue collected via all 9 P&D machines in The Mall and Abbey Street on Sundays during December 2017 is detailed in the table below.

<b>Date</b>	<b>Revenue collected all 9 P&amp;D Machines</b>
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup> December	£710.00
Sunday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	£910.00
Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	£990.00
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> December	£995.00
	<b>£3,605.00</b>

The cost for providing enforcement via 2 x Traffic Attendants for three Sundays in December is detailed in the table below. Deployment was removed on 24<sup>th</sup> December.

<b>Enforcement</b>	<b>Total</b>
Additional deployment for 3 consecutive Sundays in December, 3 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 <sup>th</sup> and 17 <sup>th</sup> for The Mall and Abbey Street from 1pm – 6pm.	£1,187.95
Fuel, mileage based on staff deployed from Ballymena	£37.98
	<b>£1,225.93</b>

## Future provision December 2018

Options to consider;

**Option 1.** Provide free parking on Sundays in November and December with no enforcement.

**Option 2.** Charge for parking on Sundays in December only and provide enforcement.

Sundays in December 2018			
Option 1		Option 2	
The Mall	Free	The Mall	Charge
Abbey Street	Free	Abbey Street	Charge
Long Commons	Free	Long Commons	Free
Railway Road	Free	Railway Road	Free
Railway Place	Free	Railway Place	Free
Waterside	Free	Waterside	Free
Millburn Road	Free	Millburn Road	Free

Note: The above does not include private operators in town centre locations who charge a 70p per hour tariff on Sundays during December.

### Recommendation

Members to select an option above for implementation in December 2018.