

Chief Executive's Budget Proposal**OPTION: Car Parking – Countryside Parks**

2015/16	2016/17	TOTAL
£000s	£000s	£000s
50	15	65

SUMMARY OF OPTION

This option would introduce pay and display parking charges into the Parks and Countryside car parks at Arrowe Country Park, Eastham Country Park, Wirral Country Park and Royden Country Park. The option will generate income, but requires some investment in providing cash payment ticket machines. The income generated will assist in continuing the maintenance of the park.

Charging would allow the council to continue to offer public car parks into the future in a fair and sustainable manner, particularly given the financial strains on other areas. Charges are already in place in many other Council-provided car parks in other communities, particularly where there is a significant demand for parking.

The hours when charges would apply are to be determined on a site by site basis, taking into account local factors, but are likely to start from 10am. Income from Parks car parks (after deduction of costs of collection) will be ringfenced for use on projects in the country park where the charge applies.

It might be possible to provide discounted parking for volunteers and other regular users of the parks, including consideration for such provision across multiple sites.

IMPACT ON RESIDENTS

May lead to displaced parking into adjacent areas, and may have an adverse impact on visitor numbers and the local economy.

Friends and volunteer groups who use the parks regularly will be subject to the proposed parking charges, and this may impact on the numbers of people becoming volunteers or joining Friends groups at these parks.

Disabled badge holders do not need to pay for parking as long as they display a valid disabled badge.

IMPACT ON PARTNERS

No direct implications.

IMPACT ON COMMUNITY, VOLUNTARY AND FAITH SECTOR

Friends and volunteer groups who use the parks regularly will be subject to the proposed parking charges, and this may impact on the numbers of people becoming volunteers or joining Friends groups at these parks.