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<b>REPORT TO:</b>	Cabinet Member (Carbon Reduction and Sustainability)
<b>DATE:</b>	13 December 2021
<b>SERVICE AREA:</b>	Safer Communities
<b>REPORTING OFFICER:</b>	Head of Safer Communities (Dean Richardson)
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>REVIEW OF SAFER COMMUNITIES OFF STREET PARKING CHARGES, SHOP-MOBILITY AND VEHICLE RELEASE CHARGES 2022/23</b>
<b>WARD/S AFFECTED:</b>	ALL DISTRICT
<b>FORWARD PLAN REF:</b>	N/A

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**1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 The report presents the Safer Communities budget proposals in respect of Parking Services, within the terms of reference of the Cabinet Member (Carbon Reduction and Sustainability)

**2.0 RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 To recommend to Cabinet the Safer Communities charges for shop-mobility and vehicle release, for 2022/23, contained in Appendix A.
- 2.2 To recommend to Cabinet that charges for off street parking are not amended in this budget cycle.

**3.0 RECOMMENDED REASON FOR DECISION**

- 3.1 To review charges in accordance with the Council's Financial Strategy.
- 3.2 To set charges in accordance with relevant legislation. Officers recommend no adjustments are made but kept under review.

**4.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTION CONSIDERED AND RECOMMENDED FOR REJECTION**

- 4.1 Alternative recommendations would be contrary to the Financial Strategy of the Council.

## **5.0 THE REPORT**

- 5.1 The shop-mobility charges are contained in Appendix A and it is proposed that they are not increased (as has been the case in previous years). Private purchase of mobility scooters, the modest fees and modest demand means that any increase in charges would have a negligible impact upon income. The potential adverse impact of a charges increase is disproportionate to any financial or service benefit. It remains a valuable service for our customers.
- 5.2 Car park vehicle release fees are contained in Appendix A. They are levied where a customer leaves their vehicle in the car park after closing and need the vehicle released out of hours. This applies to our multi-storey car parks. Modest demand means that any increase in charges would have a negligible impact upon income and potentially increase debt and administration. The potential adverse impact of a charges increase is disproportionate to any financial or service benefit.
- 5.3 Most changes to off-street parking charges must be in conjunction with the Highway Authority (North Yorkshire County Council) to consider traffic management impacts. There are no current proposals to review charges but this does not preclude the ability to do so subsequently if the authorities consider it appropriate.
- 5.4 The service is recommending no increases to charges which requires consideration by Cabinet because it is not within the guidance and Financial Strategy, as agreed by Cabinet, in respect of shop-mobility and vehicle release fees and off-street parking charges for the reasons detailed above.
- 5.5 No increased income has been included in the budget for 2022/23, in respect of shop-mobility, vehicle release charges or off street parking charges. The projected income (the subject of a separate overall budget report) has been adjusted to reverse out previous reductions arising from the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

## **6.0 REQUIRED ASSESSMENTS AND IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The following were considered: Financial; Human Resources; Legal and ICT implications; Strategic Property/Asset Management Considerations; Risk Assessment; Equality and Diversity (the Public Sector Equality Duty and impact upon people with protected characteristics). If applicable, the outcomes of any consultations, assessments, considerations and implications considered necessary during preparation of this report are detailed below.
- 6.2 Finance has been consulted and comments incorporated into the report.

## **7.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 7.1 The service is recommending no increases to charges which requires consideration by Cabinet because it is not within the guidance and Financial Strategy, as agreed by Cabinet, in respect of shop-mobility and vehicle

release fees and off-street parking charges for the reasons detailed in this report.

**Background Papers** – None.

**OFFICER CONTACT:** Please contact Dean Richardson if you require any further information on the contents of this report. The Officer can be contacted by e-mail at [dean.richardson@harrogate.gov.uk](mailto:dean.richardson@harrogate.gov.uk)