

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL

25 March 2015

Report by Director of Environment

THE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
(DISABLED PERSONS' PARKING BAYS) (OFF-STREET PARKING)
ORDER 20^[**]

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of the report is for Council to approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Bays) (Off-Street Parking) Order 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. It is recommended that the Council approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Bays) (Off-Street Parking) Order 2015 and delegate to the Director of Environment the implementation of the Order in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

BACKGROUND

3. The Disabled Persons' Parking Places (Scotland) Act 2009 requires Local Authorities in Scotland to designate and control the use of all disabled persons' parking spaces by making and confirming a Traffic Regulation Order as per the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Local Authorities are also required to update their Disabled Persons' Parking Traffic Regulation Orders and annually report the number of regulated disabled persons' parking spaces within their area to the Scottish Government.

REPORT

4. The draft Order complies with the requirements of the 2009 Act and designates spaces within off-street car parks for the exclusive use of vehicles displaying, in an appropriate manner, a valid Blue Badge. Any vehicle occupying a designated space and not displaying a valid Blue Badge, in accordance with the Blue Badge Scheme in Scotland, risks being issued with a Penalty Charge Notice. The Order will only apply to disabled parking bays in car parks operated by the Council, or in privately operated car parks where there is an arrangement with the owner.

5. Consultation on the draft Order complied with "The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) Scotland Regulations 1999 (and subsequent amendments)". The emergency services and all other organisations/persons likely to be affected by any provision in the Orders (including all Community Councils and Elected Members) were notified of the proposals. In addition, Notices advising of the proposals were published in the 'Glasgow South & Eastwood Extra' and the 'Barrhead News'.

6. The Council received one representation to these proposals. The representation brought to our attention an enforcement issue within the Mary Young Place, Busby, Car Park. It was suggested that the layout of the spaces be standardised to prevent people parking on the hatched area between disabled bays. The layout of the spaces is, however, in accordance with the guidelines. This proposed Order seeks to strengthen the enforcement powers of the parking Attendants which should help alleviate this difficulty.

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

7. The financial implications of implementing the Traffic Regulation Order will be met from the Parking Account. This is an account held under the terms of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and it is a requirement under Section 55 of the Act that the Parking Account income and expenditure are reported annually to the Scottish Government.

8. There will be future financial and staffing implications resulting from normal maintenance costs associated with updating/amending the Order, as it is continually evolving as and when new disabled persons' parking places are installed or replaced. There will be a requirement to renew/refresh lining and signing, update the Parking Attendants' hand held computers and publish the proposals. Therefore, based on averages from previous years, and with the continual additional amendments to the Order, it is estimated that costs will be in the region of £8000 per annum. This will be met from the Parking Account.

CONSULTATION

9. The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999 sets out the statutory requirements for consultation. The Council has met the procedural requirements.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

10. The Council's parking enforcement is a joint working arrangement between Roads & Transportation Services and Corporate & Community Services. The Service departments have worked closely on the preparation of the draft Traffic Regulation Order to ensure that the new restrictions can be readily enforced and incorporated into the work programme.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

11. There will be no property, IT or sustainability implications arising from the proposals. There is a positive equality outcome in relation to these proposals.

CONCLUSIONS

12. It is concluded that the Council should approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Bays) (Off-Street Parking) Order 2015.

RECOMMENDATIONS

13. It is recommended that the Council approve and authorise the making of the East Renfrewshire Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Bays) (Off-Street Parking) Order 2015 and delegate to the Director of Environment the implementation of the Order in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

Director of Environment

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

East Renfrewshire Council (Disabled Persons' Parking Bays) (Off-Street Parking) Order 20^[**]

KEY WORDS

Disabled Persons' Parking Bays
Traffic Regulation Order