

BUDGET SETTING 2024-25 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Title of EIA		Increased Car Parking Charges
EIA Author	Name	John Seddon
	Position	Strategic Lead – Policy and Innovation
	Date of completion	21 November 2023 Updated 08.02.24
Head of Service	Name	Colin Knight
	Position	Director of Transportation, Highways and Sustainability
Cabinet Member	Name	Councillor Patricia Hetherton
	Portfolio	City Services

PLEASE REFER TO [EIA GUIDANCE](#) FOR ADVICE ON COMPLETING THIS FORM

SECTION 1 – Context & Background

1.1 Please tick one of the following options:

This EIA is being carried out on:

- New policy / strategy
- New service
- Review of policy / strategy
- Review of service
- Commissioning
- Other project (*please give details*) Budget review

1.2 In summary, what is the background to this EIA?

This EIA examines the implications of a potential increase in car parking charges at City Council managed on and off street parking facilities. The existing rates will increase in line with inflation (i.e. by circa 10%) and will apply to all charges throughout Monday to Sunday. It is expected that the new rates would be introduced from 1st April 2024.

The increase in car parking charges would apply equally to all existing users of the Council’s parking facilities whilst exemptions from parking charges (disabled badge holders) would be unaffected. The impact on individuals will depend on how frequently they use the parking facilities and how long they park for.

Parking charges are periodically reviewed and adjusted in line with transport or other Council priorities.

SECTION 2 – Consideration of Impact

Refer to guidance note for more detailed advice on completing this section.

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In order to ensure that we do not discriminate in the way our activities are designed, developed and delivered, we must look at our duty to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conflict that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between two persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not

2.1 Baseline data and information

The Council operates 17 public car parks comprising circa 4000 parking spaces. In excess of 1.3million parking sessions are bought each year across all the Council’s public on and off-street parking facilities.

People who use the parking facilities in Coventry are not necessarily residents in the city.

We do not collect or monitor equalities data about customers who use the car parks.

Coventry City Council has recently undertaken a public consultation exercise in respect of all budget proposals, including the proposed increase to car parking fees. Whilst there was a mixed response to the proposal, many respondents were supportive of it. None of the feedback to the consultation exercise expressed concerns in regard to potential impacts on protected groups.

2.2 On the basis of evidence, complete the table below to show what the potential impact is for each of the protected groups.

- Positive impact (P),
- Negative impact (N)
- Both positive and negative impacts (PN)
- No impact (NI)
- Unknown impact (UI)

Protected Characteristic	Impact type P, N, PN, NI	Nature of impact and any mitigations required
Age 0-18	NI	
Age 19-64	N	There is no data held on the number of car park users who fall into each protected category, so we cannot establish the scale of this impact for different groups. The changes will affect all residents, visitors and businesses in the affected car parks. Mitigations will be put in place for low income families.
Age 65+	N	Older people on fixed incomes may be disproportionately affected. Some older people who are not registered disabled are less mobile and less able to walk significant distances may also be disproportionately impacted by additional costs

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Disability	NI	Disability exemption permits/ blue badge permits are not being changed therefore there is no impact to this group
Gender reassignment	NI	
Marriage and Civil Partnership	NI	
Pregnancy and maternity	N	There is some potential for pregnant women and new parents to be adversely affected due to their limited mobility if they are more likely to use a car than public transport or active travel during this time
Race (Including: colour, nationality, citizenship ethnic or national origins)	N	A lot of minority ethnic residents live in priority neighbourhoods/ more deprived parts of the Coventry Therefore, there could potentially be more impact upon this protected characteristic.
Religion and belief	NI	
Sex	NI	
Sexual orientation	NI	

2.3 Will there be any potential impacts in relation to health and/or digital inequalities?
A more detailed equality impact assessment will be carried out if this proposal forms part of the final budget report which goes for approval in early 2024.

3.0 Will there be any potential impacts on Council staff from protected groups?

Negative impact identified – charges will apply to employees

4.0 How will you monitor and evaluate the effect of this work?

This equality impact assessment will be reviewed if this proposal is implemented following approval of the final budget report.

5.0 Action Planning		
Issue Identified	Planned Action	Timeframe
n/a		

6.0 Completion Statement

As the appropriate Head of Service for this area, I confirm that the potential equality impact is as follows:

No impact has been identified for one or more protected groups


Positive impact has been identified for one or more protected groups

Negative impact has been identified for one or more protected groups

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Both positive and negative impact has been identified for one or more protected groups

8.0 Approval

Signed: Head of Service: 	Date: 21 November 2023 / 08.02.24
Name of Director: Colin Knight	Date sent to Director: 21 November 2023 / 08.02.24
Name of Lead Elected Member: Councillor Patricia Hetherton	Date sent to Councillor: 21 November 2023 / 08.02.24