

# ARUN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## REPORT TO AND DECISION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2021

### REPORT

**SUBJECT: Off Street Parking Strategy 2021-2026**

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**DATE: September 2021**  
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**AREA: SERVICES**

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

This report sets out the Council's Off-Street Parking Strategy 2021-2026, it includes a vision for the future and an Action Plan for its implementation.

#### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To formally adopt the Council's Off-Street Parking Strategy 2021-2026 as shown on Appendix A.

#### **1. BACKGROUND:**

- 1.1. Parking is a valuable asset for a council. Provision of good parking can help an area to thrive, reduce nuisance parking and provide an income for the Council that we can re-invest in our car parks for the benefit of all.
- 1.2. Although many of the strategies and policies of the Council will involve the way in which car parks are operated in the future the Council has not had a specific vision or strategy for the Off-Street car parks.
- 1.3. In order to ensure that there is clear direction in planning for the future it is important that the Council has a vision of what it wants for its Off-Street car parks.
- 1.4. The Strategy will set out a framework within which we can develop detailed aims and objectives to achieve our vision for our car parks.
- 1.5. To assist in writing the strategy a review of other Strategies has been completed. Group Heads and other Officers associated with parking were also consulted.

## 2. CREATING THE VISION

2.1. The vision for the Councils Off-Street car parks cannot stand in isolation from what the Council wishes to achieve in its overall vision for the district. Therefore, it must consider and support other strategies and policies. In particular the following:

- Digital Strategy
- Financial Strategy
- Carbon Strategy
- Regeneration Plans

2.2. The Strategy includes the following Vision:

**We will provide safe well maintained car parks that meets the needs of the residents, shoppers and visitors to Arun, providing an income for the Council as well as supporting economic growth, promoting a sustainable environment and creating a positive parking experience.**

## 3. TECHNOLOGY

3.1. Customers increasingly expect to have the option of buying tickets and managing their stay in car parks by using technology that doesn't require payment by cash.

3.2. We have introduced pay by phone (RingGo) into all our car parks and we have some Card/Contactless Pay & Display machines. All machines at the moment still accept cash.

3.3. However, the pandemic caused a huge increase in customers wishing to pay by card rather than cash, so we need to ensure that is an option in all our car parks. We also need to consider whether it's time to consider removing cash as a payment method option.

3.4. We will be introducing Virtual Permits which will allow the customer the ability to make immediate changes to their details such as the vehicle registration

## 4. IMPLEMENTING THE STRATEGY

4.1. In order to implement the Strategy an Action plan has been produced (Appendix B of the Strategy).

4.2. This will be a living document which will need to be reviewed and updated regularly. Actions are set out with timescales for implementation and a measure of their success. Two actions have specific dates for commencement and completion. These are

- Installation of Electric Charging Points in the Councils public car parks from 2022.

- All Pay & Display Machines to be Contactless and cash to no longer be collected by 2024

4.3. All actions have the objective of improving the car parks service year on year leading to improved customer experience and maximising the use of car parks to support the needs of businesses, workers, shoppers and visitors.

## 2. PROPOSAL(S):

To formally adopt the Councils Off-Street Parking Strategy 2021-2026 and approve the process of implementation of that strategy through an Action Plan (Appendix B).

## 3. OPTIONS:

Not to formally adopt the Councils Off-Street Parking Strategy 2021-2026 and approve the process of implementation of that strategy through an Action Plan (Appendix B).

## 4. CONSULTATION:

Has consultation been undertaken with:	YES	NO
Relevant Town/Parish Council		✓
Relevant District Ward Councillors		✓
Other groups/persons (please specify)		✓

## 5. ARE THERE ANY IMPLICATIONS IN RELATION TO THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL POLICIES: (Explain in more detail at 6 below)

	YES	NO
Financial	✓	
Legal		✓
Human Rights/Equality Impact Assessment		✓
Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act	✓	
Sustainability	✓	
Asset Management/Property/Land	✓	
Technology	✓	
Other (please explain)		

## 6. IMPLICATIONS:

Through the strategy we will be able to deliver the following benefits:

### Financial

Appropriate management and charging structures to support vitality and economic growth.

### Community Safety including Section 17 of Crime & Disorder Act

Reduce Crime by implementing the guidance provided when applying for the Safer Parking Awards

**Sustainability**

Promoting a sustainable environment by installing Electric Vehicle Charging points

**Asset Management/Property/Land**

Investment in car parks through a planned Investment Strategy to ensure they are fit for the future

**Technology**

Employment of enhanced technology and information to improve customer experience

**Other**

Appropriate management and charging structures to support vitality and economic growth.

**7. REASON FOR THE DECISION:**

To implement a new Off-Street Car Park Strategy

**8. BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

None