

**To: Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee**

**Date: 5<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

**Report of: Head of Law and Governance**

**Title of Report: CALL-IN - PARKING IN THE PARKS REVIEW**

## **Summary and Recommendations**

**Purpose of report:** To allow the Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee to review the decision of the City Executive Board at its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> September, which has been called in by the Chair of this Committee.

**Key decision? No**

**Scrutiny Lead Member: Councillor Mark Mills**

**Executive lead member: Councillor Colin Cook**

**Recommendation(s):**

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the call in request and either:-

- (a) Disagree with the call-in which will mean the original City Executive Board decision is made at this point; or,
- (b) Agree wholly or partly with the call-in and report to the next City Executive Board on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

## **Introduction**

1. The Chair of the Value and Performance Scrutiny Committee has called in the decision of the City Executive Board on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012 made following a review of charging for parking in parking areas adjacent to parks.
2. The reason for the call-in is that in making the decision consideration should have been given to:-
  - (i) The impact on neighbouring areas.
  - (ii) The balance between revenue from charges and penalties.

- (iii) Whether there are other factors in play which might be distorting the comparison of user numbers.

### **Scrutiny considerations**

- 3. To assist the Committee the following information is attached:

#### Original Decision Making

- (i) Report of the Head of Direct Services submitted to the City Executive Board on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012;
- (ii) Extract from the minutes of the City Executive Board of 12<sup>th</sup> September 2012;

#### **The Impact on neighbouring areas**

- (iii) Members of the communities affected may attend to give comment to the Committee

#### **Balance of revenues**

- (iii) Income and penalties information for the period between September 2011 and 31<sup>st</sup> August 2012.

#### **Factors influencing user numbers**

- (iv) Further information has been requested from the Head of Leisure and Parks on factors such as improvements to parks and play areas and events which may have impacted on the usage of the parking areas.

The Head of Leisure and Parks has confirmed that while all of the play areas have been refurbished, the refurbishment programme was already underway when the charges were introduced. All of the car parks were well used during the peak summer months and while events once again were held in the parks during the year, the number of events remained constant.

### **Options**

- 4. The Committee is asked to consider the reasons stated by the Chair when considering the call-in and to either:-
  - (a) Disagree with the call-in, which will mean the original City Executive Board decision is made at this point;
  - (b) Agree wholly or partly with the call-in and report to the next City Executive Board on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

**Name and contact details of author:-**

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**List of background papers: None**

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