

Report of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Personnel Policy**Christmas Free Car Parking****1. Purpose of Report**

To inform Cabinet of the arrangements for free parking across the Borough over the Christmas period. This is in accordance with 'Business Growth' to invest in our towns and out people.

2. Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to NOTE the report.

3. Detail

The Council will be offering free parking in most of its car parks across the Borough over the Christmas period from 8 December until 31 December 2025. The only exception will be the car parks at Technology Drive and Station Road in Beeston, which mainly serve train station users. In designated car parks, ticket machines will issue free tickets for the first two-hours, with normal charges applying after that period. This approach will allow Parking Services to continue to monitor usage and helps prevent commuters from taking advantage of all-day free parking.

4. Key Decision

This report is not a key decision as defined under Regulation 8 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012.

5. Updates from Scrutiny

Not applicable.

6. Financial Implications

The comments from the Assistant Director Finance Services were as follows:

The introduction of free parking for two-hours during the Christmas period would see an estimated reduction in net revenue income of around £14,000, alongside a one-off cost of £2,500 to reconfigure the machines. The loss of income and additional costs will be contained within existing budgets.

7. Legal Implications

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

8. Human Resources Implications

Not applicable.

9. Union Comments

Not applicable.

10. Climate Change Implications

Not applicable.

11. Data Protection Compliance Implications

Not applicable.

12. Equality Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

13. Background Papers

Nil.