

TO: Planning and Environment Committee

FROM: Manager, Transportation Planning

MEETING DATE: 6 October 2008

SUBJECT: **PARKING STRATEGY - OVER 75'S POLICY**

SUMMARY

When adopting the Parking Strategy the Council deferred a decision on parking exemptions for the over 75's and asked the Parking Strategy Working Party to further consider this matter.

The Working Party have met and considered the matter and this report outlines the outcome of that meeting.

IMPLICATIONS FOR:

- | | |
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| (i) Policy: | Yes, this will update the Parking Strategy |
| (ii) Approved Annual Budget: | No |
| (iii) LTCCP / Funding Policy: | No |
| (iv) Activity Management Plans: | No |
| (v) Community Boards: | No |

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes the minutes of the Parking Strategy Working Party meeting of 17 September 2008.
- 2 Approves the policy for parking for over 75's as follows:
 - (i) That the holders of over 75 Parking permits are entitled to park free anywhere controlled by metered spaces or pay 'n' display machines, except George Street between the Octagon and Frederick Street.
 - (ii) That a pre-requisite for issuing of an over 75's Parking Permit is proof of ownership of a vehicle and the permit shall be linked to the vehicle;and that this be incorporated into the Parking Strategy.

INTRODUCTION

At its meeting on 18 August the Council considered the proposed Parking Strategy and asked the Working Party to reconsider the parking privileges for those over 75. The Committee have now met and re-considered this matter. In doing this the Working Party looked at numerous issues as set out in the minutes (attached).

DISCUSSION

Having considered all issues the Working Party decided it was reasonable to provide over 75's with free parking on a similar basis to the current policy. It was also agreed that to be eligible for a permit the individual must own a vehicle and the permit must be linked to that vehicle. The Working Party considered also that over 75's should not be entitled to free parking in George Street between the Octagon and Frederick Street.

CONCLUSION

In broad terms the new policy is equivalent to the existing policy with additional controls to reduce the risk of abuse.

Prepared by:

Don Hill
Manager, Transportation Planning

Approved by: Kate Styles
General Manager Strategy and Development

Date report prepared: 22 September 2008

Attachments

Attachment One - Minutes of Parking Strategy Working Party meeting of 17 September 2008

ATTACHMENT ONE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKING STRATEGY WORKING PARTY, HELD IN THE OTARU ROOM, CIVIC CENTRE ON WEDNESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2008 COMMENCING AT 12.15 PM

PRESENT: Councillors Michael Guest, Syd Brown and Andrew Noone

IN ATTENDANCE: Don Hill (Transportation Planning Manager) and Pam Jordan (Governance Support Officer)

PART A:

1 PARKING STRATEGY – OVER 75S POLICY

The Council meeting held on 18 August 2008 had referred the matter of the Over 75s Parking Policy back to the Parking Strategy Working Party for further consideration.

The Transportation Planning Manager (Don Hill) had provided a list of discussion points and the Working Party considered a number of issues, including:

- Whether the holders of Over 75s permits were obtaining greater benefits than originally anticipated
- The use of various car parks by the holders of Over 75s permits, in particular the Frederick Street and Library car parks
- The introduction of free public transport for the holders of Super Gold Cards
- Equity with the mobility impaired
- That there did not appear to be any abuse of the scheme, or resulting clogging of particular areas.

Following discussion it was **agreed** that it should be recommended to the Council:

- 1 That the holders of Over 75s Parking Permits should be entitled to park free anywhere covered by metered spaces or pay and display machines, except George Street between the Octagon and Frederick Street.
- 2 That the holders of Over 75s Parking Permits should be required to present evidence of vehicle ownership at the time of applying for or renewing the permit, and the permit should be linked to that vehicle.

It was to be pointed out that there was basically no change to the existing policy, except in regard to those areas of George Street where meters had been installed.

The meeting concluded at 12.40 pm.

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CHAIRPERSON