

Agenda Item	5.
Report No	SCC/16/22

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Sutherland County Committee

Date: 7 November 2022

Report Title: Achmelvich Car Park Mandatory Charging

Report By: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

- 1.1 Members must be informed when an amendment of any Traffic Regulation Order is proposed that allows the enforcement of mandatory parking charges at Council off-street car parks.

2 Recommendations

- 2.1 Members are asked to **Agree** the proposal to advertise the necessary amendment of the 2016 off-street Traffic Regulation Order which will prescribe enforcement of mandatory parking charges at the Achmelvich Beach Car Park in Sutherland.

3 Implications

- 3.1 **Resource** – Without the securing of income from the site the Council will be unable to match fund grant funding from the Rural Tourism Infrastructure Fund.
- 3.2 **Legal** – To allow the enforcement of parking charges an amendment to the Off-street Traffic Regulation is required to be made through Statutory Consultation.
- 3.3 **Community (Equality, Poverty, Rural and Island)** – 50% of any surplus income will be available to the Committee to re-invest in local infrastructure/community projects.
- 3.4 **Climate Change / Carbon Clever** – The site will provide additional facilities for cycle storage.

3.5 **Risk** – The joint funded project to create a fit for purpose destination facility at Achmelvich will not proceed without the capital borrowing required from the Highland Council.

3.6 **Gaelic** – No implications.

4 Achmelvich Beach Car Park

4.1 Members will be aware of a project to redevelop the Achmelvich Beach car park site to provide a fit for purpose destination site with adequate toilet facilities for visitors to this popular destination.

A recent successful application for external match funding requires capital borrowing that must be secured by repayment from revenue generation at this site.

4.2 Income raised from compulsory charging will cover loan charges and running costs, and in the longer term deliver additional income to the Committee. Council policy ensures that 50% of all surplus income will be allocated to the Sutherland County Committee to invest as they see fit.

4.3 A detailed paper on the business case for this project will be submitted to Economy and Infrastructure Committee on 22 November 2022.

5 Traffic Regulation Order

5.1 Local Committees must be informed of any proposal to advertise a traffic regulation order as per current council policy. The proposed order amendment will allow the enforcement of mandatory parking charges at Achmelvich Beach car Park. A statutory public consultation will be undertaken. If any objections are received that cannot be resolved by officers, the matter will be taken back to a future committee for a Members' decision.

5.2 The proposed amendment will introduce an enforceable tariff in addition to the existing control of use order that applies to this car park. Charges will apply from 9am to 5pm 7 days per week and are up to 4 hrs £3; up to 6 hrs £4; up to 8 hrs £5; and NO vehicles manufactured or adapted for the purpose of sleeping between 10pm and 8am

Designation: Executive Chief Officer Infrastructure, Environment & Economy

Date: 18 October 2022

Authors: Shane Manning, Principal Traffic Officer

Background Papers: Off-Street Car Parking Policy [Review](#)