



Transformation, Income, and Saving Proposal No 34

Somerset Equality Impact Assessment

Organisation prepared for	Sedgemoor District Council		
Version	V1	Date	January 2023
Description of what is being impact assessed			
The increase of some of the daily rate of parking on the beaches at Brean and Berrow, coming into place in April 2023.			
Evidence			
What data/information have you used to assess how this policy/service might impact on protected groups? Sources such as the Office of National Statistics, Somerset’s Joint Strategic Needs Analysis, should be detailed here			
<p>There is little data available on the number of car park users and who fall into the different protected characteristics and therefore difficult to establish the scale of the impact for different groups.</p> <p>The charges haven’t increased for some time, it might impact people on low incomes, but it’s a 50p increase on a full day ticket – there are still other options for people to park near the beach for less, access onto the beach is free – the charge only comes in when you park on the beach.</p> <p>There is still a different parking rate for disabled users. For blue badge holder – the daily rate hasn’t changed but there has been an increase to the annual parking permit</p> <p>It is recognised that the increase in charges will affect both residents and visitors and could deter visitors but there are alternative sites available away from the beach for people to use</p>			
Who have you consulted with to assess possible impact on protected groups? If you have not consulted other people, please explain why?			
Increase to our internal charging structure, this is not something we would not normally consult on. Once agreed the prices will be made public.			

Analysis of impact on protected groups

The Public Sector Equality Duty requires us to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations with protected groups. Consider how this policy/service will achieve these aims. Using the table below, detail what considerations and potential impacts against each of these using the evidence that you have collated and your own understanding. Based on this information, make an assessment of the likely outcome, before you have implemented any mitigation.

Protected group	Summary of impact	Negative outcome	Neutral outcome	Positive outcome
Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maybe impact due to the cost-of-living increases, but with a 50p rise, it still makes it an affordable option for a day trip, although there are alternative options available elsewhere to park 	☐	☒	☐
Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase to the Annual disabled car pass (£5 over the whole year), but no increase for daily car rates for blue badge holders, meaning that this is a small impact for those the choose the annual disabled car pass but remains the same of day users with a blue badge 	☐	☒	☐
Gender reassignment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	☐	☐	☐
Marriage and civil partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	☐	☐	☐

Pregnancy and maternity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	□	□	□
Race and ethnicity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	□	□	□
Religion or belief	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	□	□	□
Sex	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 50p increase could be seen to be out of line taking into consideration the cost of living increases being seen more widely. The costs for parking haven't increased for some time and there are alternative sites available for people to park to access the beach. 	□	⊗	□
Sexual orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No impacts identified 	□	□	□
Other, e.g. carers, veterans, homeless, low income, rurality/isolation, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 50p increase could be seen to be out of line taking into consideration the cost of living increases being seen more widely. The costs for parking haven't increased for some time and there are alternative sites available for people to park to access the beach Carers of disabled people would have no impact if using on the day charge as there is no change. A small impact if using the annual pass 	□	⊗	□

Negative outcomes action plan

Where you have ascertained that there will potentially be negative outcomes, you are required to mitigate the impact of these. Please detail below the actions that you intend to take.

Action taken/to be taken	Date	Person responsible	Action complete
			<input type="checkbox"/>
	Select date		<input type="checkbox"/>

If negative impacts remain, please provide an explanation below.

The beach by its very nature is a dangerous place, shifting sand and tides, and access to the beach remain issues for the council to consider as part of their responsibilities under Health and Safety Legislation.

The Equality Act 2010 recognises that there may well be times when there is a need to discriminate but in doing so there must be an objective justification.

The Equality Act says discrimination can be justified if the person who's discriminating against can show it's a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim. A legitimate aim is the reason behind the discrimination. This reason must not be discriminatory in itself and it must be a genuine or real reason. An example of legitimate aims is the health, safety and welfare of individuals.

Completed by:	Sarah Dowden
Date	January 2023
Signed off by:	Angela Farmer
Date	16th January 2023
Review date:	