Responses to Salisbury Proposals

At the Cabinet meeting held on Tuesday, 18 October 2011 the following agenda items were discussed:

Agenda item 8

Response to proposals from Salisbury City Council presented to Wiltshire Council 26 July 2011. These proposals are shown at Annex A.

Recommendations were put and agreed for proposals 3 and 4. Proposal 1 concerning the one hour charge had been resolved by Cabinet on 19 August 2011. Proposals 2 and 5 were deferred to Council and are covered in this report.

Agenda item 9

Response to proposals from Salisbury City Centre Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry presented to Wiltshire Council 11 July 2011. These proposals are shown at Annex B. An additional letter from these bodies dated 26 September was also discussed. This is shown at Annex C.

Recommendations were put and agreed for proposals 1(b), 4, 5, 6, 7(a), 7(b), 8 & 9. Proposals 1(a), 1(c), 2, 3 were deferred to Council and are covered in this report. There is duplication of the relevant proposals in the letter of 26 September 2011, therefore this report refers to those in the letter dated 11 July 2011.

Preamble

In the letter dated 26th September the following comparisons are made of charges in Salisbury and neighbouring Towns and Cities.

| | 1 hour | 2 hours | 3 hours | 4 hours | 5 hours | All day |
|----------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|------------|---------|
| Basingstoke | £0.90 | £1.50 | £2.00 | £2.60 | £3.30 | £5.20 |
| Bournemouth | £0.50 | £1.00 | £2.00 | £3.50 | £5.00 | £8.00 |
| Southampton (Marlands) | £1.00 | £2.00 | £2.50 | £3.00 | £3.50 | £5.00 |
| Salisbury | £1.50 | £2.50 | £4.00 | £4.60 | £5.50 | £7.40 |
| Basingstoke Festival Place | £1.00 | £2.00 | £2.80 | £3.40 | £4.50 | £15.00 |
| Bournemouth BIC | £1.50 | £2.50 | £4.00 | £6.00 | £7.00 | £12.50 |
| Southampton West Quay | £2.00 | £2.00 | £3.00 | £4.00 | £5.50 | £8.00 |

The following comments apply:

Southampton – While the charges of the largest public (Marlands multi-storey – 837 spaces) and private (West Quay multi-storey – 2,500 spaces) car parks have been shown in Table 1, the charges in the majority of the other car parks in Southampton are higher. For instance, the 1 and 2 hour charges in the majority of the City Council's short-stay car parks are £1.40 and £2.80 respectively, and the parking charges in the majority of the City Council's long-stay car parks (14 car parks with some 3,000 spaces) are as follows:

| <1hr | <2hrs | <3hrs | <4hrs | <5hrs | <6hrs | <7hrs | <10hrs |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| £1.20 | £2.40 | £3.30 | £4.20 | £5.00 | £6.80 | £7.30 | £8.00 |

The charges in the West Quay Podium car park (1,500 spaces) are as follows:

| <1hr | <2hrs | <3hrs | <4hrs | <5hrs | <6hrs | <7hrs | <10hrs |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| - | £2.40 | £3.50 | £4.20 | £5.50 | £8.50 | £11.00 | £14.00 |

In West Quay car park the charges on Sundays are the same as weekdays and there are charges for evening parking. This is not the case in Salisbury. Finally there is no network of P&R sites in Southampton but there are there are 8 AQMA's (Air Quality Management Areas).

- Bournemouth One of the key issues set out in the 'Bournemouth Community Strategy' and 'Bournemouth, Poole and Dorset LTP3' is high and increasing traffic congestion in urban areas. The LTP3 highlights that parking policies will be required to address this congestion problem and also carbon emissions, air pollution and general quality of life issues. The LTP3 also states that parking charges will need to be integrated with any forthcoming P&R sites. Currently, Bournemouth has only one single road AQMA and no network of P&R sites.
- Basingstoke is not a key tourist destination and does not have any AQMA's or a network of P&R sites.

While the general argument remains that Southampton, Bournemouth and Basingstoke have better retail offers than Salisbury the Javelin Venue Score for 2010 shows that Salisbury has a slightly better retail offer than Basingstoke and Bournemouth.

Response to deferred proposals from Salisbury City Council

Proposals 2 and 5 were deferred to Council, the proposals and responses are:

Proposal 2

SCC wishes to see the re-introduction of the one hour parking charge at a rate of £1.20 without delay

Response

Cabinet, at its extraordinary cabinet meeting on the 19 August 2011, approved the reintroduction of the one hour off-street charge at £1.50 and adjusted the two hour charge to £2.50 through a variation to the existing 'The County of Wiltshire (Southern Wiltshire) (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2011'.

Proposal 5

That parking charges be a flat rate of £1 when the park and ride sites are closed (Sundays and Bank Holidays)

Response

The Sunday usage figures shown at Annex D show that the previous reduction in Sunday charges from £2.00 to £1.50 in July 2010 made virtually no change in usage. Therefore the change to a flat rate of £1.00 would have little or no effect. Although the ticket machines can be programmed to have different charges on Sundays they cannot be programmed in advance for each Bank Holiday. Changing the machines manually for each Bank Holiday would be difficult and expensive. However we will continue to investigate this matter further.

Response to deferred proposals from Salisbury City Centre Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Proposals 1(a), 1(c), 2 and 3 were deferred to Council, the proposals and responses are:

Proposal 1(a)

Introduce a one hour stay at a charge of £1.20.

Response

Cabinet, at its extraordinary cabinet meeting on the 19 August 2011, approved the reintroduction of the one hour off-street charge at £1.50 and adjusted the two hour charge to £2.50 through a variation to the existing 'The County of Wiltshire (Southern Wiltshire) (Off-Street Parking Places) Order 2011'.

Proposal 1(c)

Reduce charges for the two and three hour time bands.

Response

In the letter to Andrew Kerr dated 24 May 2011, Salisbury City Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry were in agreement with the current charges. No reason is given for this proposal made only six weeks later.

For stays of up to three hours, people have a choice when going to Salisbury. They can either drive to a car park in the centre and pay £4.00/£4.20 or use the Park & Ride service and pay £2.50 or £3.50 for a group. While the former is more convenient (but only by about 7 minutes each way) it can increase city centre congestion and add to air pollution levels.

Proposal 2

Long –stay parking - reduce charges for four, five and all day parking.

Response

The strategy for Salisbury has always been to price the long stay charges in the city centre at a level that encourages the use of Park & Ride. Changing these charges to those suggested in the proposal would undermine this strategy and result in an increase in cars in the city centre with the resultant increased congestion and increased air pollution levels.

Again, in the letter to Andrew Kerr dated 24 May 2011, Salisbury City Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry were in agreement with the current charges. No reason is given for this proposal made only six weeks later.

Proposal 3

Introduce a flat rate parking charge of £1.00 when the Park & Ride service is not operating, i.e. on Sunday's and Bank Holidays.

Response

The Sunday usage figures shown at Annex D show that the previous reduction in Sunday charges from £2.00 to £1.50 in July 2010 made virtually no change in usage. Therefore the change to a flat rate of £1.00 would have little no effect.

Although the ticket machines can be programmed to have different charges on Sundays they cannot be programmed in advance for each Bank Holiday. Changing the machines manually for each Bank Holiday would be difficult and expensive. However, we shall continue to investigate this matter further.

Annex A

Proposals from Salisbury City Council presented to Wiltshire Council 26 July 2011.

Annex B

Proposals from Salisbury City Centre Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry presented to Wiltshire Council 11 July 2011.

Annex C

An additional letter from Salisbury City Centre Management, the Federation of Small Businesses and Salisbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry presented to Wiltshire Council 26 September 2011.

Annex D

The Sunday usage figures.