

## **MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL**

### **RECORD OF DECISION OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT**

Decision Made: 22 August 2011

#### **REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND REGULATORY SERVICES - BRUNSWICK STREET PAY AND DISPLAY CAR PARK DISPOSAL**

##### **Issue for Decision**

To consider declaring the Brunswick Street pay and display car park and adjacent garage premises (as outlined upon the plan set out at Appendix 1 to the report of the Assistant Director of Environment and Regulatory Services) non-operational and surplus; any final decision to dispose of the site to be considered by the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services.

##### **Decision Made**

1. That the Brunswick Street pay and display car park and adjoining garage premises be declared non-operational and surplus.
2. That the matter be forwarded to the Cabinet Member for Corporate Services for a final decision upon disposal of the site.

##### **Reasons for Decision**

Brunswick Street pay and display car park has 66 parking bays and offers long stay parking. The car park is situated on the outskirts of the town centre within the South 2 residential zone.

The car park also offers overflow parking for South 2 resident parking permit holders after 18:30hrs during periods of high demand.

In recent years, occupancy levels within Brunswick Street pay and display car park has declined, with average occupancy levels below 60% during the day and only 40% in the evening. The combined effect of the downturn in the economy and the availability of alternative long stay parking closer to the town centre, suggests that it is unlikely that occupancy levels will significantly improve and it is considered that usage will further decline.

The garage premises are leased on a contracted out agreement that terminates in December 2011 and will not be renewed. The Tenant has established itself in alternative premises.

A development proposed by a prospective purchaser offers an available parking area which may be utilised for residents during periods of high 'on-street' parking demand.

It is not considered that loss of the car park will significantly impact on local parking availability nor will it affect localised congestion as average 'on-street' occupancy levels within the South 2 resident parking bays is recorded at 74% during the day and 79% during the evening.

Pay and display equipment currently in operation within Brunswick Street car park can be redeployed to other pay and display parking facilities where demand is higher to ensure improved customer services.

### **Alternatives considered and why rejected**

The proposal to cease the use of the car park could be rejected; however this would prevent the sale of the land

### **Background Papers**

None

Should you be concerned about this decision and wish to call it in, please submit a call in form signed by any two Non-Executive Members to the Head of Change and Scrutiny by: <b>30 August 2011</b>
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