



**IPSWICH**  
BOROUGH COUNCIL

# **Equality Impact Assessment**

## *Resident Parking Scheme Review*

**Ref:** EQIA2017082916

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**Service Area:** Planning & Development

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**Title of report:** Resident Parking Scheme Review

**Reference:** EQIA2017082916

**What is the report trying to achieve?:**

The purpose of the report is to review the Ipswich Residents Parking Scheme, and specifically to consider proposals for varying:

- \* the fees that apply within the residents parking scheme
- \* the terms and conditions of the residents parking scheme, and
- \* the processes by which the residents parking scheme operates, including administrative procedures.

**What evidence/data is being used to support this equality analysis?:**

Findings from surveys, focus groups & consultations

**Supporting documents (if available):**

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**Is there potential for positive or negative impact on any of the protected characteristics?**

- **Age:** *Negative*
- **Disability:** *Negative*
- **Marriage & Civil Partnership:** *No Impact*
- **Race:** *No Impact*
- **Pregnancy & Maternity:** *No Impact*
- **Religion or Belief:** *No Impact*
- **Gender Reassignment:** *No Impact*
- **Sex:** *No Impact*
- **Sexual Orientation:** *No Impact*

**If 'No Impact' explain why**

The report proposes to vary some of the fees charged within the Ipswich Residents Parking Scheme and change some terms and conditions relating to current restrictions on the issue of certain types of permit. It also proposes to introduce a 'virtual permit' system instead of paper based permits and renewal letters for most types of permit. It is considered that this only has a potential negative impact on the age and disability protected characteristics.

**If you have identified any negative impacts (above) how can they be minimised or removed?**

The identified negative impacts relate to the 'virtual permit' proposals as they move the administration of residents parking permits from a paper based system (e.g. with renewal letters) to an internet based system. Older members of society are less likely to have internet access and in some cases may also be less confident with the use of computers. Some people with certain types of disability may find it hard or impossible to use the internet.

However, the Council is mitigating this by continuing to offer all affected residents the option of administering and paying for their residents permits by telephone during normal office hours. Payment by cheque or postal order will also continue to be available. Additionally, assistance will be available at the Customer Service Centre and new Council tenants in residents parking zones will be offered assistance by the Council's housing officers to register for a permit.

**The report helps us to 'eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment & victimisation' in the following way(s):**

By ensuring that alternative methods of contacting the Council and administering residents parking permits are available, which will be of particular benefit to those users of the scheme who find it difficult or impossible to use the internet.

**The report helps us to 'advance equality of opportunity...' in the following way(s):** As above.

**The policy helps us to 'foster good relations...' in the following way(s):** By consulting with the Ipswich Disability Advice Bureau on these proposals.