

Pecyn Dogfennau Cyhoeddus

Aelod Portffolio Priffyrdd, Ailgylchu ac Asedau

Man Cyfarfod

Dyddiad y Cyfarfod
Dydd Llun, 29 Ebrill 2019

Amser y Cyfarfod
Amser heb ei bennu

I gael rhagor o wybodaeth cysylltwch â



Neuadd Y Sir
Llandrindod
Powys
LD1 5LG

23 Ebrill 2019

Mae croeso i'r rhai sy'n cymryd rhan ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg. Os hoffech chi siarad Cymraeg yn y cyfarfod, gofynnwn i chi roi gwybod i ni erbyn hanner dydd ddau ddiwrnod cyn y cyfarfod

AGENDA

1.	AROLYGU CODI PRISIAU PARCIO CEIR
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(Tudalennau 1 - 18)

Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwriadol

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO HOLDER DELEGATED DECISION

by

COUNTY COUNCILLOR PHYL DAVIES

(PORTFOLIO HOLDER FOR HIGHWAYS, RECYCLING AND ASSETS)

APRIL 2019

REPORT AUTHOR: Traffic and Travel Manager**SUBJECT:** Review of Car Park Charging

REPORT FOR: Decision / Discussion / Information

1. Summary

To review options for council operated Car Park charges, in light of the savings target of £200K associated with parking charges.

Providing safe and convenient parking is vital to the economy of Powys, ensuring that our towns remain easily accessible for people who choose to drive. Appropriate parking management supports the objectives of Powys County Council, offering access to many amenities and places to visit and enabling our residents and businesses to achieve their potential.

2. Proposal

To rationalise the current matrix of parking charges, increase/simplify daily parking charges.

3. Options Considered / Available

Several options have been considered as summarised below:

- Option 1 - Rationalising tariffs
- Option 2 - Provision of 1 hour parking free for all when combined with Option 1
- Option 3 - Provide a limited number of bays in each car park free for 30 minutes [shop and go spaces]
- Option 4 - Provide parking for free after 3pm
- Option 5 - Voucher discount scheme
- Option 6 - On street charging

3.1 Existing charges

The existing tariffs were last changed in June 2015 to the following:

Vehicle type	Short Stay		Long Stay				
	Up to 1 Hour	1 – 2 Hours	Up to 1 Hour	1 - 2 Hours	2 – 4 Hours	Over 4 Hours	Overnight
Car motorcycle	£1.00	£1.50	£0.70	£1.30	£2.50	£3.20	£0.00
Vehicle + trailer			£1.90	£1.90	£3.80	£3.80	£6.30
Goods to 3t			£2.20	£2.90	£4.00	£4.00	£6.30
Goods >3t bus			£2.40	£3.40	£4.40	£5.30	£6.30

Currently

- 54% of short stay users and 32.5% of long stay users pay for 1 hours parking. Potentially all these would benefit from free parking equating to £371k of ticket sales.
- 46% of short stay users and 36.3% of long stay users pay for 2 hours parking. This equates to £374k of ticket sales.
- 17.7% of long stay users stay for 2-4 hours
- 13.4% of long stay users stay for over 4 hours
- Less than 0.1% were overnight sales

Blue Badge holders receive free parking in any space within the pay and display car parks.

3.2 Option 1 - Tariff rationalisation including reduced permit charges

3.2.1 Proposed Tariffs

The current tariff matrix is considered overly complicated and it utilised the maximum permitted variances the old car park machines were capable of utilising; hence some tariff bands needed to have the same value. It is considered that this should be simplified for ease of use by customers. The majority of the larger vehicles or trailers will take up at least 2 spaces and the charge needs to reflect this. Therefore, it is proposed the charge for larger vehicles be double that of a car taking a single space.

The following table indicates the proposed simplified tariff.-

Vehicle type	Short Stay		Long Stay			
	Up to 1 Hour	1 – 2 Hours	Up to 1 Hour	1 – 2 Hours	2-4 hours	Over 4 Hours
Car motorcycle Goods <3t	£1.00	£2.00	£1.00	£2.00	£3.00	£4.00
Vehicle + trailer Motorhome Goods >3T Bus			£2.00	£4.00	£6.00	£8.00

Sales of overnight tickets are minimal and produce an annual income of less than £3k. It is not considered appropriate to enforce overnight for this minimal income and therefore this charge is to be discontinued.

3.2.2 Permit prices

Permits are available for regular users of car parks. Predominantly these will be people who work in a town and travel by car. The current permit was linked to full day tariff and offered a 50% discount on a worker working 5 days per week for 46 weeks of the year.

Instead of altering the cost of a permit to reflect the revised charging, it is proposed to maintain the existing charges for permits. This will in effect provide a greater reduction for the worker working full time. The table below indicates the potential saving for a regular car user parking 5 days a week 46 weeks per year.

	Permit charge	Equivalent daily cost	Saving %
Annual	370	920	60
6 month	205	460	55
3 month	115	230	50
1 month	40	76	47

Freezing the permit prices makes them even more economical with the potential to offer a substantial 60% discount on parking for a regular user and equates to an equivalent of paying just £1.61 per day.

The annual cost of £370, when compared to the daily charge be beneficial to someone who on average parks 2 days per week in a pay and display car park.

3.2.3 Income Prediction

Income comparison of the proposed changes based on information on actual ticket sales during part of 2017-18 is:

	Income from Proposed Changes	2018-19 Budget	Difference
Car park income	£1,555,116	£1,275,000	£280,017
Permit Income	£160,000	£160,000	£0
PCN Income	£200,000	£200,000	£0
Totals	£1,885,646	£1,635,000	£280,017

3.3 Option 2 – Option 1 but providing 1 hour free parking to all

To aid regeneration and encourage footfall within our town centres the option to provide 1 hours free parking has been considered. A high proportion of current users of the car parks are only staying for 1 hour and therefore this will benefit a significant

proportion of users. It may also encourage those that traditionally drive 2-3 times around a town looking for a free on street parking place before driving off if none available. This proposal may therefore increase footfall and reduce congestion and improving the environment for pedestrians. The machines within a town can be networked and drivers required to input full registration marks so that a free hour will only be issued once per day to any one vehicle.

Allowing the free hours parking would estimate to raise the following income:

	Proposal year	Current Budget	Difference
Car park income	£1,243,755	£1,275,000	-£31,245
Permit Income	£160,000	£160,000	£0
PCN Income	£200,000	£200,000	£0
Totals	£1,574,384	£1,635,000	-£31,245

Providing the free hour parking would mean we would not achieve the savings target of £200k an indeed would create an additional budget pressure of £31k or a total shortfall of £231k.

3.4 Option 3 - Shop and go spaces

Some other authorities offer a limited number of spaces within off street car parking as free to use 'shop and go' spaces.

Whilst these are limited in number they do offer additional free parking whilst limiting the potential loss in income of a blanket 1 hour free provision as Option 2 above. These spaces would be on a first come first served basis and to cater for the 'shop and go' type shopper and therefore should be restricted to a time less than an hour [30 or 45 minutes] similar to on-street type restrictions.

It is however difficult to predict the income difference that such a proposal would create as it would be unknown how many of the existing visitors paying for 1 hour would make use of the facility.

This could be introduced in combination with option 1 but would not attain the full financial improvement.

3.5 Option 4 Provide parking for Free after 3pm

Some other authorities also offer parking free after 3pm to align with parents and schools closing. In the last 12 months it is estimated nearly £115k ticket sales were between 3pm and 6pm.

This could be an alternative to providing 1 hours free parking but would still potentially have a significant impact on overall income.

3.6 Option 5 Voucher discount scheme

Voucher discount schemes are permitted within the County's parking policy whereby towns/businesses could offer discounts or money back to pay for the parking to

shoppers when they purchase goods. Whilst this scheme has worked in the past for specific advertisement campaigns by individual businesses, current experience is that this would be difficult to run by a town/businesses to provide discounts after buying a P+D ticket. It is therefore considered that take up would be limited and this would not impact upon car park use and income at this time.

This scheme however is available within the Council's current Parking Policy and could be made to work in a specific town if desired. Since the costs involved would be chargeable to the promotor of the scheme this would be cost neutral to this Authority.

3.7 Option 6 On street charging

On street charging could be an option however the legislation governing income from on street charging is more restrictive and can only be made to cover costs. Whilst costs of enforcing and maintaining machines signs and lines etc can be attributed to this, it should only be considered to aid enforcement.

Introducing on street charges would make enforcing more efficient as at present an enforcement Officer has to make 2 observations in on street limited waiting bays within the hand held computers. Logging every vehicle takes time especially on busy town centre locations.

Introducing pay and display would mean it is a simple check in the windscreen to see if a valid ticket is displayed. The machines can also be networked preventing repeated issue of tickets to someone using different machines or moving to an adjoining street.

4. Preferred Choice and Reasons

It is clear that providing any or part of the services for free will impact significantly on existing income and will place a budget pressure on the service and also not attain the required financial improvement identified in the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan.

The preferred choice is Option 1 as this will closest attain the financial improvement identified in the MTFS.

5. Impact Assessment

5.1 Is an impact assessment required? Yes

5.2 If yes is it attached? Yes

6. Corporate Improvement Plan

6.1 The financial strategy within the corporate improvement plan states that we *will have to be more efficient in the use of our resources*. Resources also includes the income the Authority receives through charging for the services it provides. However, increasing charges may be considered to by businesses as not supporting

the economy as generally people consider increased parking charges may affect town centre footfall.

7. Local Member(s)

- 7.1 This applies with equal force across therefore individual Member comments have not been requested on this report.

8. Other Front Line Services

Does the recommendation impact on other services run by the Council or on behalf of the Council? No

If so please provide their comments

9. Communications

Have Communications seen a copy of this report? Yes

The Communications Manager states - The report is of considerable public interest and requires use of news release and appropriate social media action to publicise the decision.

10. Support Services (Legal, Finance, Corporate Property, HR, ICT, Business Services)

- 10.1 The Principle Legal assistant has reviewed the proposal and, having considered, believes the proposals to be lawful.

- 10.2 Finance – The Finance Manager Place and Resources notes the contents of the report. The options proposed within the report will generate an estimated saving of £280k against the saving for car parks charges review of £200k. The potential over achievement of £80k can partially offset the additional savings target of £100k identified from abandoning car park charging for Blue Badge holders.

11. Scrutiny

Has this report been scrutinised? No

If Yes what version or date of report has been scrutinised?

Please insert the comments.

What changes have been made since the date of Scrutiny and explain why Scrutiny recommendations have been accepted or rejected?

12. Data Protection

If the proposal involves the processing of personal data then the Data Protection Officer must be consulted and their comments set out below.

The proposal does not alter any current arrangements for processing data.

13. Statutory Officers

The Solicitor to the Council (Monitoring Officer) commented as follows: "I note the legal comments and have nothing to add to the report."

The Head of Financial Services (Deputy Section 151 Officer) notes the comments of the Finance Manager.

14. Members' Interests

The Monitoring Officer is not aware of any specific interests that may arise in relation to this report. If the Portfolio Holder has an interest, he/ she should declare it, complete the relevant notification for and refer the matter to Cabinet for decision.

Recommendation:	Reason for Recommendation:
To rationalise the car park charges as set out in Option 1 and to follow the statutory procedure of the necessary Notice of Variation to implement the changes within all the County's pay and display car parks.	To best achieve the identified savings target the service

Relevant Policy (ies):	
Within Policy:	Y
Within Budget:	Y

Relevant Local Member(s):	None Specific, as affects the whole of Powys
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Person(s) To Implement Decision:	Tony Caine
Date By When Decision To Be Implemented:	Legal procedure to commence upon approval

Is a review of the impact of the decision required?	No
If yes, date of review	
Person responsible for the review	
Date review to be presented to Portfolio Holder/ Cabinet for information or further action	

Contact Officer:	Tony Caine
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Tel:	01597826652
Email:	tony.caine@powys.gov.uk

Background Papers used to prepare Report:

Cyngor Sir Powys County Council

Impact Assessment (IA)

The integrated approach to support effective decision making



Please read the accompanying guidance before completing the form.

This **Impact Assessment (IA)** toolkit, incorporates a range of legislative requirements that support effective decision making and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation. **Draft versions of the assessment should be watermarked as "Draft" and retained for completeness. However, only the final version will be made publicly available. Draft versions may be provided to regulators if appropriate. In line with Council policy IAs should be retained for 7 years.**

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Service Area	HTR	Head of Service	Adrian Jervis	Director	Nigel Brinn	Portfolio Holder	Phyl Davies
Proposal	Car park charge review						
Outline Summary / Description of Proposal							
The council's car parks provide significant income to the Highways Service and is generated from Pay & Display, permits (residential / seasonal) and penalty charge notices (off & on Street).							
The provision for a saving or increased net income of £200K for car park income has been identified for the 2018/19 financial year. The scope of the project is to explore, review and assess how this can be achieved within the car parking service.							
One suggestion is to rationalise car park charges as the existing tariff matrix is complex with many a high number of differing tariff for various types of vehicle. Rationalising the charges should therefore make the tariffs simpler and reduce some confusion between the vehicle types.							

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1. Version Control (services should consider the impact assessment early in the development process and continually evaluate)

Version	Author	Job Title	Date
1	Tony Caine	Traffic and travel manager	30/08/2018

2. Profile of savings delivery (if applicable)

2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	TOTAL
£200k	£200k	£200k	£200k	£200k	£1.0M

3. Consultation requirements

Consultation Requirement	Consultation deadline/or justification for no consultation
No consultation required (please provide justification)	Changing car park charges is covered by set legal process

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4. Impact on Other Service Areas

Does the proposal have potential to impact on another service area? (Including implication for Health & Safety and Corporate Parenting)
PLEASE ENSURE YOU INFORM / ENGAGE ANY AFFECTED SERVICE AREAS AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY

It is not expected that the proposal will affect other services areas of the Council.

5. How does your proposal impact on the council's strategic vision?

Council Priority	How does the proposal impact on this priority?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
The Economy We will develop a vibrant economy	The increase in charges may reduce visitors to local towns.	Poor	Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week.	Poor
Health and Care We will lead the way in effective, integrated rural health and care	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Learning and skills We will strengthen learning and skills	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Residents and Communities We will support our residents and communities	Increases in parking charges may deter people from visiting towns to access services	Poor	Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week.	Poor

Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements

Welsh Government research - Assessing the Impact of Car Park Charges on town Centre Footfall, March 2015 reported *the general availability of spaces is felt by visitors to be more important than cost in their overall decision about visiting and that Whilst a 'blanket' free parking strategy has been suggested to encourage more car park users, these were generally found not to benefit target visitors ... and consequently had an unexpectedly negative impact on footfall.* <http://gov.wales/docs/caecd/research/2015/150610-assessing-impact-car-parking-charges-town-centre-footfall-en.pdf>

6. How does your proposal impact on the Welsh Government's well-being goals?

Well-being Goal	How does proposal contribute to this goal?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
<p>A prosperous Wales: An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change); and which develops a skilled and well-educated population in an economy which generates wealth and provides employment opportunities, allowing people to take advantage of the wealth generated through securing decent work.</p>	<p>Whilst the WG report concludes charges do not impact upon footfall in Town Centres, increasing charges potentially may result in some users considering more sustainable modes of transport and encourage active travel for short journeys as opposed to making the journey by car. This may therefore support the objectives of the Active Travel [Wales] Act 2013. However, the proposal may impact greater on those of low income and may affect people's choice in entering employment within the affected towns.</p>	<p>Poor</p>	<p>Annual or seasonal permits are available for use in all long stay car parks. These offer substantial discounts to regular users over the daily charges.</p>	<p>Poor</p>
<p>A resilient Wales: A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change).</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Choose an item.</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>
<p>A healthier Wales: A society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood.</p>	<p>Increasing charges may result in some users considering more sustainable modes of transport and encourage active travel for short journeys as opposed to making the journey by car. This may therefore support the objectives of the Active Travel [Wales] Act 2013 to encourage people to leave their cars behind and walk/cycle where suitable to do so.</p>	<p>Good</p>		<p>Choose an item.</p>

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The integrated approach to support effective decision making



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A Wales of cohesive communities: Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected Communities.	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
A globally responsible Wales: A nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being.	Introducing charges may result in some users considering more sustainable modes of transport and encourage active travel for short journeys as opposed to making the journey by car. This could assist in reducing carbon emissions reducing our carbon footprint.	Good		Choose an item.
A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language: A society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.				
<i>Opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language, and treating the Welsh language no less favourable than the English language</i>	No real impact - the service would continue as before.	Neutral	Service would remain the same	Neutral
<i>Opportunities to promote the Welsh language</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Welsh Language impact on staff</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>People are encouraged to do sport, art and recreation.</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
A more equal Wales: A society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).				
<i>Age</i>	All age groups will be effected.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Disability</i>	This element of the proposal has no impact upon blue badge holders.	Neutral		Choose an item.
<i>Gender reassignment</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Marriage or civil partnership</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Race</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Religion or belief</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Sex</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
<i>Sexual Orientation</i>	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.

Pregnancy and Maternity	N/A	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
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Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements
.none

7. How does your proposal impact on the council's other key guiding principles?

Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	<u>IMPACT</u> Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	<u>IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION</u> Please select from drop down box below
Sustainable Development Principle (5 ways of working)				
Long Term: Looking to the long term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.	Short term budget need to be balanced otherwise this will have a knock on effect long term. .	Good	Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week	Neutral
Collaboration: Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions.	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Involvement (including Communication and Engagement): Involving a diversity of the population in the decisions that affect them.	The increase in charges will affect all user groups equally	Neutral	The proposal includes offering a concession for blue badge holders.	Neutral
Prevention: Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them from occurring.	Proposal may increase inconsiderate or illegal parking within the surrounding area and thus have an increased call for enforcement by the Police to take action for obstruction or dangerous parking. Displaced vehicles may migrate on street in residential areas reducing availability for those residents and their visitors.	Poor	Proportionate and targeted enforcement provided to deter the practice occurring. Displaced vehicles may over the long term return to the car parks where parking is likely to be easier and more conveniently located. Additionally residents parking schemes are available which may prevent this from being an issue.	Neutral

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Principle	How does the proposal impact on this principle?	IMPACT Please select from drop down box below	What will be done to better contribute to positive or mitigate any negative impacts?	IMPACT AFTER MITIGATION Please select from drop down box below
Integration: Taking an integrated approach so that public bodies look at all the well-being goals in deciding on their well-being objectives.	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Preventing Poverty: Prevention, including helping people into work and mitigating the impact of poverty.	Proposal may impact greater on those of low income and may affect people's choice in entering employment within the affected towns.	Poor	Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week	Poor
Unpaid Carers: Ensuring that unpaid carers views are sought and taken into account	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Safeguarding: Preventing and responding to abuse and neglect of children, young people and adults with health and social care needs who can't protect themselves.	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Impact on Powys County Council Workforce	N/A	Choose an item.		Choose an item.
Source of Outline Evidence to support judgements				
None.				

8. What is the impact of this proposal on our communities?

Severity of Impact on Communities	Scale of impact	Overall Impact
Low	Low	Low

Mitigation

Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week

9. How likely are you to successfully implement the proposed change?

Impact on Service / Council	Risk to delivery of the proposal	Inherent Risk
Medium	Low	Low

Mitigation

Appropriate communication plan will be implemented. The change in tariffs require legal notification to be issued.

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Risk Identified	Inherent Risk Rating	Mitigation	Residual Risk Rating
Increase of parking on street in surrounding areas	Medium	Discounted permits are available for regular car park users. The permits equate to £4.80 per week which is the equivalent of just over 1 days parking per week. Residents parking schemes are available where displacement may affect residential areas	Low
High level of complaints about the increase in charges	Low	Implement a communication strategy to minimise complaints	Low

Overall judgement (to be included in project risk register)

Very High Risk	High Risk	Medium Risk	Low Risk
			✓

10. Overall Summary and Judgement of this Impact Assessment?

Outline Assessment (to be inserted in cabinet report)	Cabinet Report Reference:
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The increase in charges may impact upon people's choice to visit a town however research indicates that this is not the main consideration. Displacement of vehicles may occur into surrounding streets however targeted enforcement will aim to ensure this is not within restricted places. In addition residents permit schemes are available to residents where on street parking by visitors to a town displace residents in predominantly residential areas.

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11. Is there additional evidence to support the Impact Assessment (IA)?

What additional evidence and data has informed the development of your proposal?

none

12. On-going monitoring arrangements?

What arrangements will be put in place to monitor the impact over time?

Monitor car park income
 Monitor the number of Penalty Charge Notices
 Monitor the uptake of annual/seasonal permits

Please state when this Impact Assessment will be reviewed.

12 months post approval.

13. Sign Off

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Position	Name	Signature	Date
Impact Assessment Lead:	Tony Caine		06/12/2018
Head of Service:	Adrian Jervis		
Director:	Nigel Brinn		
Portfolio Holder:	Cllr Phyl Davies		

14. Governance

Decision to be made by	Portfolio Holder	Date required	December 2018
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FORM ENDS

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Mae'r dudalen hon wedi'i gadael yn wag yn fwiadol