



RHONDDA CYNON TAF

RECORD OF DELEGATED OFFICER DECISION

SUBJECT: Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme



PURPOSE OF ATTACHED REPORT:

To report on the evaluation of the 2013 – 2014 Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme.

To recommend the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme for 2014/15 is suspended in order that a full and proper review of the scheme is undertaken. To consider any recommendations made, as a result of the scheme review and an equality impact assessment, prior to any decisions being made on an Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme for 2015/16.

DELEGATED DECISION (Date):

1. The evaluation of the scheme for 2013 –2014 is noted.
2. A scheme for 2014–2015 is **suspended** to allow time for a full and proper review of the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme.
3. Information on the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme is updated on the Council website and replaced with information on the review of the scheme.
4. That a full and proper review of the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme is undertaken in 2014/15. In order to facilitate the proposed review it is recommended that the Service Directors, Community Care and the Highways, Transport and Strategic Projects, be delegated to provide a report for consideration prior to any further proposals being put forward for 2015/16.

Chief Officer Signature 	Print Name Neil Elliott	Date 19/8/14
Chief Officer Signature 	Print Name Nigel Wheeler	Date 26/8/14

The decision is taken in accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government Act, 2000 (Executive Functions) and in the terms set out in Section 5 of Part 3 of the Council's Constitution

A. Morgan

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

6/8/14

DATE

M. Jorey

CONSULTEE CABINET MEMBER SIGNATURE

18/08/14

DATE

Nigel Brinn

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

22/08/14

DATE

[Signature]

OFFICER CONSULTEE SIGNATURE

19/8/14

DATE

Directorate:	Community & Children's Services and Environmental Services
Contact Name:	*Bob Gatis ** Nigel Brinn
Designation:	*Service Director, Community Care ** Service Director, Highways, Transport and Strategic Projects
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RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2014 - 2015

**REPORT TO ACCOMPANY DECISION OF
GROUP DIRECTOR, COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND
GROUP DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

Part 1 (Non-Confidential)

Report on the Implementation of the individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To report on the evaluation of the 2013 -2014 scheme.
- 1.2 Following the 2013/14 evaluation to make recommendations for future Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme following a full and proper review to be undertaken in 2014/15. In accordance with the Council's Scheme of Delegation, this report has been prepared to accompany the intended Officer decision of the Group Director, Community and Children's Services and Group Director, Environmental Services, as described below.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that:

- 2.1 The evaluation of the scheme for 2013 –2014 is noted.
- 2.2 A scheme for 2014–2015 is **suspended** to allow time for a full and proper review of the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme.
- 2.3 Information on the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme is updated on the Council website and replaced with information on the review of the scheme.
- 2.4 That a full and proper review of the Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme is undertaken in 2014/15. In order to facilitate the proposed review it is recommended that the Service Directors, Community Care and Highways, Transport and Strategic Projects, be delegated to provide a report for consideration prior to any further proposals being put forward for 2015/16.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 At the Cabinet meeting held on 20th July 2009, Members agreed to the outline proposals for a new scheme to administer Individual Disabled Parking Bays.
- 3.2 Since the implementation of the scheme a total of 166 parking bays have been installed across RCT. Of the bays installed, 39 have been removed, leaving 127 individual disabled parking bays on the highway.

4 EVALUATION OF 2013 - 2014 SCHEME

4.1 Overview of 2013 - 2014 Scheme

	2012/13	2013/14
Number of Application Packs sent out	138	142
Applications Returned	122	135
Applications Not Returned	16	7
Applications Returned but Unsuccessful at the point of application (eligibility criteria not met or deceased)	8	9
Applications Cancelled prior to Assessment	14	1
Applications Passed to OT for Assessment	100	125
Applications Not Recommended	88	114
		(prior to appeals process being completed)
Applications Recommended as at 20.06.14	12	11
Applications Recommended following Appeal	0	Awaiting completion of appeals process.

- 4.2 The initial eleven successful applicants for 2013/14 are now being taken through the formal legal process of consultation with local members and residents prior to the implementation of the bays.
- 4.3 In the past few years minor amendments have been made to the process to allow for clearer eligibility at the point of application. However the number of applications to the scheme continues to increase.
- 4.4 Following an increase in applications 125 Occupational Therapy assessments were carried out, resulting in 11 bays being awarded. The appeals process is still ongoing at the time of writing this report. Therefore there is potential for this number to increase slightly.

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- 4.5 In terms of citizen expectation and Council resources, the evidence indicates over 90% of Occupational Therapy assessments undertaken result in no further action. The assessment process raises the applicant's expectations of a parking bay and leads to a disappointing outcome for the majority of applicants.
- 4.6 There is currently no information available on the impact the implementation of an individual disabled parking bay has for the individual.
- 4.7 It is proposed a full and proper review is undertaken of the Individual Parking Bay Scheme and the scheme is suspended for 2014/15 until the review is completed. As part of the evaluation of the scheme for 2013/14 an equality impact assessment has been undertaken to look at the impact of the current scheme being suspended for 2014/15 see appendix 1.
- 4.8 In order to facilitate the proposed review it is recommended that the Service Directors, Community Care and Highways, Transport and Strategic Projects, be delegated to provide a report for consideration prior to any further proposals or recommendations being put forward for 2015/16.

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Applications to the scheme continue to increase year on year for individual disabled parking bays. The majority of applicants report being disappointed by both the process and the outcome. Currently there is no information available on the effectiveness for individuals where parking bays have been implemented.
- 5.2 A full and proper review and equality impact assessment of the scheme is recommended to be undertaken prior to any decisions being made for further Individual Disabled Parking Bay Scheme for 2015/16.

