

Report

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	2 March 2022
Report by:	Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

Subject:	Residents' Parking Permit Zones (RPPZ) Consultation
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1. Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of the report is to: -

- ◆ Provide the Executive Committee with the results of the completed Residents' Parking Permit Zones Consultation and summary of the subsequent discussion at the four Area Committees.

2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. The committee is asked to: -

- (1) note the contents of this report and approve the recommendation to accept the findings of the consultation and continue to provide permit zones with an administration charge for the permits for two years.

3. Background

- 3.1. RPPZs are generally located in proximity to high demand parking areas (e.g. town centres, train stations) allowing residents, their visitors, and tradespeople to park easily or in some areas without paying a parking charge.
- 3.2. Over the years, the RPPZs across South Lanarkshire have been successful in achieving their aims and, despite changing travel and parking demands associated with the pandemic, the need for such RPPZs is expected to remain, especially as town centres and businesses recover.
- 3.3. Members may recall that an update on RPPZ policy was reported to Community and Enterprise Committee on 31 March 2020 and was then subsequently approved by the Executive Committee on 24 June 2020. This report reflected the view of Road Safety Forum which, amongst other matters, supported a proposal to introduce an administration charge of £10 for a 2-year permit period. However, it is noted that this proposal was rejected as part of the budget setting exercise for 2020/21.
- 3.4. As part of the 2021/22 budget setting exercise, a charge for parking permits was again considered and agreed on 10 March 2021. This was implemented as permits were being renewed over the normal 2-year cycle. This charging approach directly links to an Audit Scotland report encouraging councils to better understand costs and seek to recover them where discretionary services were being provided.
- 3.5. At the full Council meeting of 22 September 2021, a motion relating to Parking Permit Charges was tabled and it was subsequently agreed that consultation with residents living in current RPPZ areas would be undertaken. Charging for permits

was 'put on hold' pending the outcome from the consultation exercise being reported to the relevant Committees. This report sets out the results of this consultation exercise.

4. Consultation

4.1. Letters were issued to 4,286 households on 27 October 2021 and the consultation closed on 15 November 2021. The following six towns / areas, with numbers of households shown in brackets, were consulted:

- ◆ Cambuslang (144)
- ◆ Carluke (169)
- ◆ East Kilbride (2,279)
- ◆ Hamilton (932)
- ◆ Rutherglen (744)
- ◆ Uddingston (18)

4.2. Households within RPPZs in these areas were asked:

(1) whether they wished to remain in a RPPZ and pay the £5 per year administration charge; or

(2) whether they wished to have their RPPZ removed.

5. Conclusions / Results

5.1. Of 4,286 households that were consulted, as of 17 November 2021, we received 1,365 completed returns representing an overall return rate of 32%.

5.2. Response rates for a consultation run typically between 5% and 30%. The overall response rate of 32% achieved here is at the higher end of the scale suggesting a good connection between the council and its customers, and a general wide interest in the survey content.

5.3. Appendix 1 provides detail of the return rate for each of the towns / areas and given the number of the zones in East Kilbride, detail of the individual zones. The individual return rates are once again at the higher end of the scale.

5.4. Overall, 81% of households chose the option to pay the £5 per year administration charge (£10 over two years) and to remain part of their RPPZ. Conversely, 19% wished to have their zone removed.

5.5. A small number of households (12 in total) indicated a preference on the completed return proforma to remain part of the zone, but not pay the administration charge. A further 9 households did the same but did not choose a preferred option and have, therefore, not been included in the figures. These numbers are very low and not significant in terms of affecting the overall results. Some respondents also included additional comments which will be considered further as part of routine business.

5.6. Appendix 2 provides further detail of the split across the six geographical areas and, given the scale of the zones in East Kilbride, a further breakdown of the individual zones.

5.7. All six towns / areas individually voted in favour of paying the £5 per year administration charge (£10 over two years) and to remain part of their RPPZ. Similarly, all 8 individual zones in East Kilbride voted in favour of paying the £5 per year administration charge and to remain part of their individual RPPZ.

5.8. As agreed at the Council meeting on 22 September 2021, the above results have now been considered by the four Area Committees. The recommendations from each Area Committee were as follows:

1. The Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee of 14 December 2021 decided that the findings of the consultation should be accepted, and that the Council should continue to provide permit zones with an administration charge of £10 for the permits for 2 years and such a position recommended to the Executive Committee.
2. The East Kilbride Area Committee of 15 December 2021 decided that they would note the results of the consultation and recommended that the Executive Committee should decide whether to continue to provide permit zones with an administration charge for the permits for 2 years.

This decision followed a lengthy debate which included a request for information in relation to the cost of the consultation undertaken. This information has since been fed back to East Kilbride Area Committee Members and set out below in Section 7.

3. The Clydesdale Area Committee of 15 February 2022 decided, following a vote, that the results of survey should be accepted and that a charge of £10 for the permits for 2 years be recommended to the Executive Committee.

This decision followed a lengthy debate and a motion put forward in relation to maintaining the status quo which would have seen RPPZs across South Lanarkshire retained with no charge being implemented.

4. The Hamilton Area Committee of 16 February 2022 decided, following a vote, to take cognisance of the contents of the paper and accept the findings of the consultation and that such a position should be recommended to the Executive Committee.

This decision followed a lengthy debate and a motion put forward in relation to accepting the findings of the consultation and an amendment to instead note the paper and not provide a recommendation to the Executive Committee.

5.9. Each Area Committee considered the results of the consultation and provided the above recommendations for consideration by the Executive Committee.

5.10. Having considered these recommendations along with results of the survey, it is recommended, overall, that the findings of this consultation are accepted, and the Council continues to provide permit zones with an administration charge for the permits for two years.

6 Employee Implications

6.1. There are no employee implications as the administration of the residential parking permit zones are undertaken using existing resources.

7 Financial Implications

7.1. The main cost of the consultation was in relation to the materials and postage required. Based upon around 4,300 households being sent a consultation pack and an approximate 32% return rate this is estimated at £4,800.

- 7.2. There were no additional employee costs as necessary resources were reassigned from existing administrative roles without any impact on the delivery of the wider Service.
- 7.3. This was largely possible because of available capacity due to reduced workload in terms of Penalty Charge Notice processing and the related suspension of the Parking Permits renewal process.
- 7.4. The acceptance of the findings of this consultation and continuing to provide permit zones with an administration charge for the permits for two years is expected to see recovery of circa £0.025m per annum associated with the issuing of these permits.

8 Climate Change, Sustainability and Environmental Implications

- 8.1. There are no significant implications in terms of climate change, sustainability and environmental implications associated with this report.

9 Other Implications

- 9.1. There are no other significant implications as result of the contents of this report.

10. Equality Impact Assessment and Consultation Arrangements

- 10.1. At this stage, this report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a change to an existing policy, function, or strategy and, therefore, no impact assessment is required.

Alistair McKinnon

Interim Executive Director (Community and Enterprise Resources)

16 February 2021

Link(s) to Council Values/Ambitions/Objectives

- ◆ Accountable, effective, efficient, and transparent

Previous References

- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 31 March 2020
- ◆ Executive Committee, 24 Jun 2020
- ◆ South Lanarkshire Council, 22 September 2021
- ◆ Community and Enterprise Resources Committee, 7 December 2021
- ◆ Cambuslang and Rutherglen Area Committee, 14 December 2021
- ◆ East Kilbride Area Committee, 15 December 2021
- ◆ Clydesdale Area Committee, 15 February 2022
- ◆ Hamilton Area Committee, 16 February 2022

Contact for Further Information

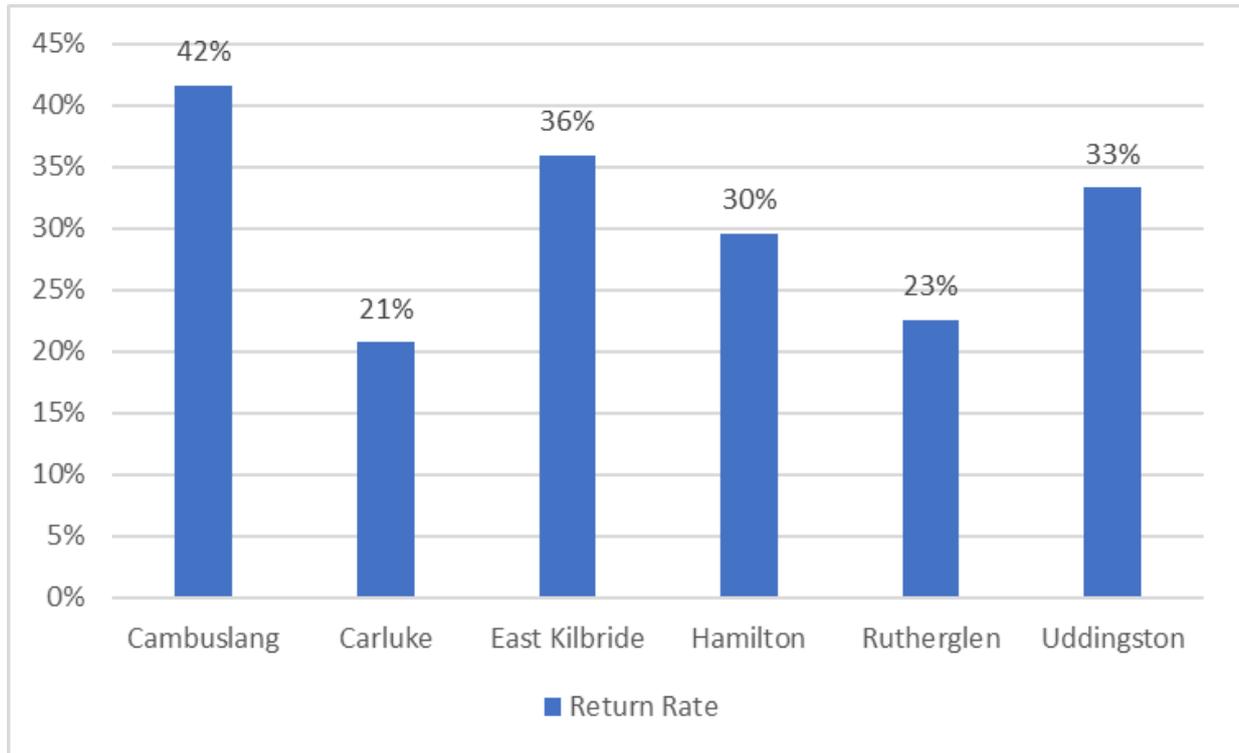
If you would like to inspect the background papers or want further information, please contact: -

Colin Park, Head of Roads and Transportation Services

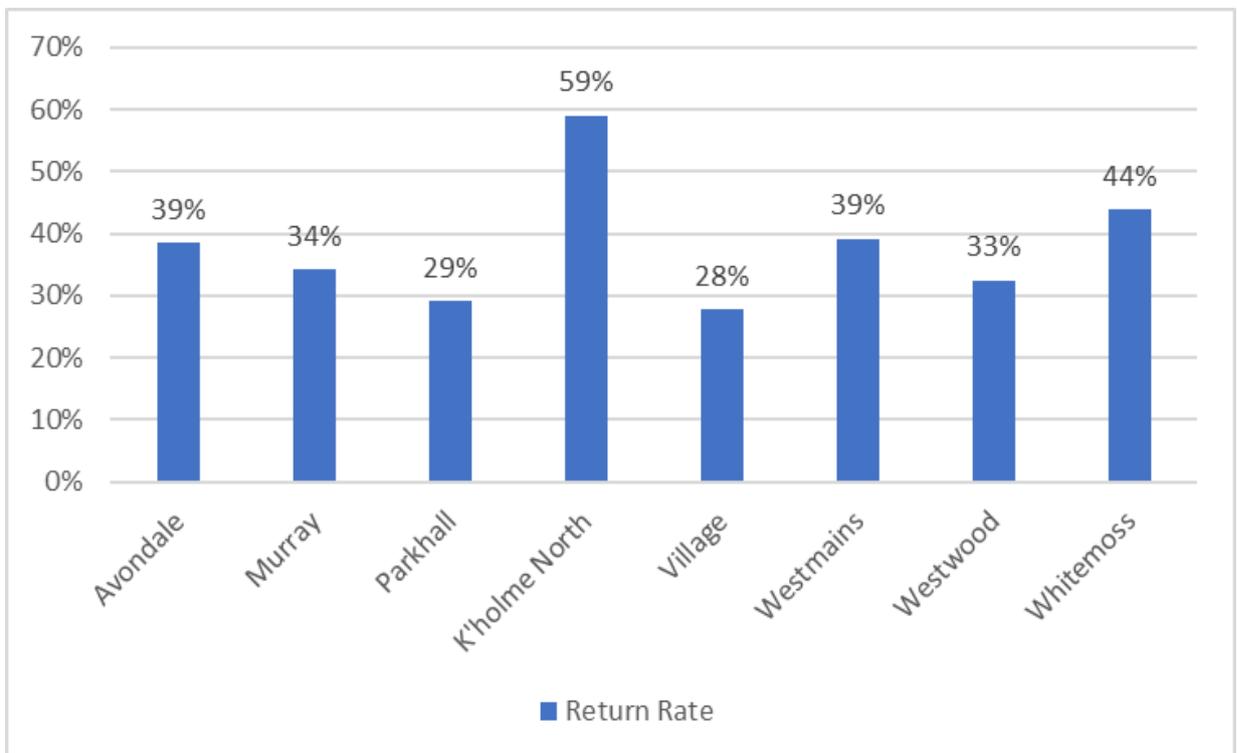
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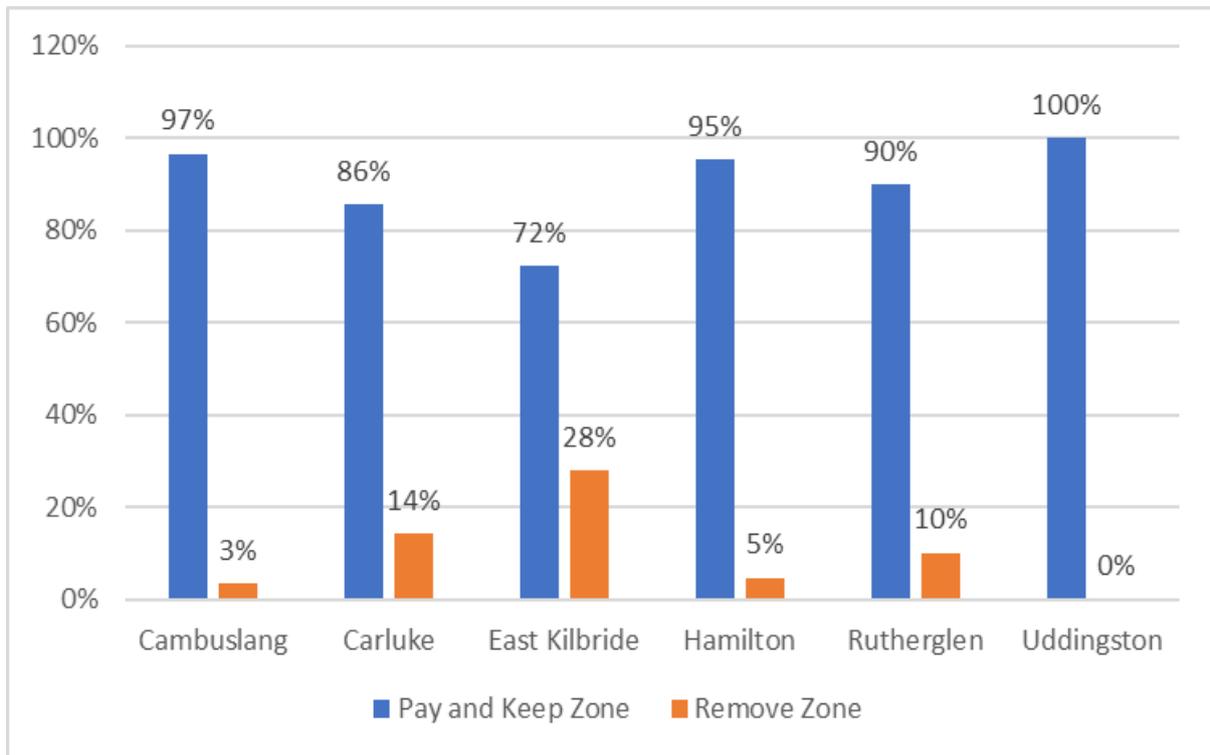
All RPPZ Areas



East Kilbride Individual Zones



All RPPZ Areas



East Kilbride Individual Zones

