

**Report to the Chairperson and the Members of the
Transportation
Strategic Policy Committee**

*Report on the Public Consultation for the Draft Dublin
City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020*

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Introduction:

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic this report was delayed in being brought to the SPC Members, as traffic volumes continue to increase as restrictions are eased, it is now appropriate that the report is brought to SPC for consideration and agreement to forward same to the City Council for adoption.

At the City Council meeting held on 25th November 2019 it was recommended that there be an increase to the current hourly Parking charges in the Dublin City Council administrative area. At the January 2020 meeting of Dublin City Council it was agreed that a public consultation process be initiated in relation to the proposed amendment to the Dublin City Council Parking Control Bye-Laws 2019.

The proposed amendment was to:

- ***Increase Fees for Pay and Display Parking***

Section 36 (3) of the Road Traffic Act 1994 provides that before making Bye-Laws under this section (other than Bye-Laws relating to the fees to be paid in respect of the parking of vehicles), a road authority shall:

- (a) Consult with the Commissioner;
- (b) Publish a notice in one or more newspapers circulating in the area to which the bye-laws relate –
 - (i) Indicating that it is proposed to make bye-laws under this section,
 - (ii) Indicating the times at which, the period (being not less than a month) during which and the place (being a place within their functional area) where a copy of the draft bye-laws may be inspected,
 - (iii) Stating that representations may be made in writing to the road authority in relation to the draft bye-laws before a specified date (which shall be not less than 2 weeks after the end of the period for inspection), and
 - (iv) Stating that a copy of the draft bye-laws may be purchased on payment of a fee not exceeding the reasonable cost of making such copies; and
- (c) before deciding whether to make the bye-laws and determining their content, consider any observations made to them by the Commissioner or any representations made to them pursuant to paragraph (b) (iii)

Submissions:

Notice of the Public Consultation appeared in Iris Oifigúil on Friday 24th January 2020 and The Irish Independent on Monday 27th January 2020. The Public Consultation commenced on Monday 27th January 2020 and concluded on Monday 9th March 2020. The public were invited to make their submissions either by post or online. A total of 4 online submissions were received.

The purpose of this report is:

- To report on the written submissions/observations received following the public consultation phase for the Draft Dublin City Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020.
- To set out the Parking Enforcement Officers responses to the issues raised in the submissions and comments
- To make recommendations on amendments/review of the Draft Dublin City Parking Control Bye-Laws 2020.

Proposed Amendments:

- ***Increase Fees for Pay and Display Parking***

It was proposed to increase the charges in all zones across the city by an average of 10%. To encourage motorists to use the Parking Tag App, a reduced rate will be provided. The rates for both Cash Customers and Parking Tag Customers are outlined in the table below:

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Cash Rate</u>	<u>Parking Tag Rate</u>
Yellow	€3.50	€3.40
Red	€3.00	€2.90
Green	€1.80	€1.70
White	€1.60	€1.50
Orange	€1.10	€1.05
Blue	€0.80	€0.70

It is an objective of the Dublin City Development Plan (MTO27) to renew restrictions on the use and cost of on street parking and change them as necessary, in order to discourage commuter parking and to facilitate short term parking for shopping, business and leisure purposes at appropriate locations.

Four comments were submitted through the Public Consultation process in relation to the increase in fees for Pay and Display Parking. Three of the comments received were in favour of the proposed fee increase. It was felt that higher fees would :

- **discourage vehicle use**
- **have an impact on congestion, air and noise pollution**
- **create a safer environment for pedestrians and cyclists**

The fourth submission received did not comment on the proposed increase in parking charges but requested that parking street signage would include a description of the colour of the zone in writing to aid people who are colour blind.

This proposal was considered separately by the Parking Enforcement Section & Senior Management in the Transportation Division as it does not relate to the public consultation process regarding the increase in fees.

I recommend that the proposed Bye-Laws be submitted to the City Council for adoption. The adoption of the Bye-Laws is a reserved function.

Dermot Stevenson

Parking Enforcement Officer