

General Information	
Ministerial Decision Type	Drafting Instructions: Subordinate Legislation (Regulations/Order)
Report Title	Eco-Permit Scheme – 2024 Extension and Needed Expiry Date
Minister	Infrastructure
Signatory	Minister
Lead Department	Infrastructure, Housing and Environment (IHE)
Lead Directorate	Operations and Transport (IHE)
Ministerial Decision Summary: Public or Absolutely/Qualified Exempt	Public Select if more than one Absolutely/Qualified Exemption.
Date decision made if different to date 'Ministerial Decision Summary' signed.	Select date.
Report and Supplemental Report Details	
Report Author	Principal Engineer – Network Management
Date of Report	19/12/2023
Supplementary Report Title <i>(If applicable)</i>	Insert Supplemental Report Title.
Supplementary Report Author <i>(If applicable)</i>	Insert Official Title Only.
Date of Supplementary Report <i>(If applicable)</i>	Select Date of Supplemental Report.
Ministerial Decision Report: Public or Absolutely/Qualified Exempt	Public Select if more than one Absolutely/Qualified Exemption.
Relevant Case/Application/URN <i>(Only complete if making a decision related to an appeal/case/application)</i>	Insert Relevant Case/Application.
Relevant Proposition Number <i>(Only complete if presenting Comments or if lodging an Amendment)</i>	Insert P. number.
Relevant Scrutiny Report <i>(Only complete if presenting a ministerial response)</i>	Insert S.R. number.
Associated Law(s) and/or Subordinate Legislation	Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006
Action required if recommendation agreed	Principal Legislative Drafter to be requested to draft legislation.

Resource Implications	There are no new financial and/or manpower implications.
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Introduction

The report outlines the current arrangements for the IE Eco-Permit parking scheme and the requirement to introduce a legal expiry date to the benefits of the scheme.

Background

The original Eco-Permit parking scheme was launched in 2008, allowing cars with low carbon emissions to take advantage of half price Paycard parking. There have since been a number of changes which reduced the maximum emission levels following trends within the motor industry to produce more efficient engines.

The 'Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006' which set out prescribed parking and season ticket charges, provides the legal basis for the Eco-Permit Scheme. As such:

- Any fully electric or plug in hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) with emissions of 50 gram CO₂ per kilometre travelled or less currently qualifies for the scheme and receive half price parking in Government of Jersey car parks and chargeable on street locations in St Helier.
- Additionally, EVs and PHEVs 'new to Jersey' (including second hand vehicles from other jurisdictions), meeting the emissions limits outlined above qualify for free parking in Government of Jersey car parks during the first year that the vehicle is registered in Jersey.

The Eco-Permit scheme supports The Carbon Neutral Roadmap's 'TR1 – Speeding up adoption of electric vehicles', policy by providing Islanders with an incentive to purchase electric vehicles.

The cost of the scheme (with regards to lost parking fee revenue) is incurred by the Car Park Trading Fund (CPTF). This fund is intended to cover operational and capital costs associated with the provision of public parking.

Since 29 August 2023 the public of Jersey have also had access to the Government Electric Vehicle Purchase Incentive (EVPI) scheme. Eligible individuals and businesses can apply for an incentive of 35% of the purchase value, up to a maximum of £3,500 towards the cost of an electric car or van.

Discussion

As technological advances occur, a higher proportion of private cars are qualifying for Eco-Permits (see table below). If the current trends continue the CPTF will be effectively subsidising parking for an ever increasing pool of vehicles.

Table of vehicles benefiting from Eco-Permits

	2020	2021	2022
Eco-Permit - Free parking	120	176	200
Eco-Permit - Half price parking	252	387	481
Total Eco-Permits	372	563	681

Following engagement with Strategic Policy, Planning and Performance and the Minister for Environment it has been agreed that the Eco-Permit Scheme and its benefits will in all likelihood be wound down at end of 2024 (i.e., Midnight 31st December) without alternative funding arrangements being found.

While the decision to extend the Eco-Permit scheme has in practice been taken on a year-by-year basis since its advent in 2008, nevertheless the 'Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006' was not originally drafted on this basis and currently does not include an expiry date to the scheme or its benefits. Therefore, it is now necessary that the 'Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006' is amended to include an expiry date (31st December 2024) such that while eligibility criteria for the permit will remain unchanged, the forward benefit through 2024 will decrease both in relation to newly registered 'electric vehicle' and 'plug in hybrid electric vehicle purchases' (i.e. those currently eligible for 12 full months of free parking) and those older vehicles eligible for half price parking. For example, a newly registered car bought at the beginning of July 2024 will only expect free parking for 6 months, etc.

In the eventuality that it is decided to extend the scheme beyond 2024 into 2025 this date would then be amended.

Recommendation

The Minister is recommended to incorporate, into the 'Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006', an expiry date of 31st December 2024 to the Eco-Permit scheme and its benefits.

Reason(s) for Decisions

The increasing cost of the Eco-Permit Scheme cannot continue to be borne by the CPTF and the 'Road Traffic (Public Parking Places) (Jersey) Order 2006' should include an expiry date mechanism for limiting the onward benefit of the current permit scheme.