



**COUNCILLOR
STUART WHITTINGHAM**

CABINET
6 NOVEMBER 2017

RESIDENT PARKING SCRUTINY REVIEW

Councillor Stuart Whittingham, said:

“It is important we are able to provide an effective, sustainable and well-managed service for residents’ parking schemes. This is an issue which comes up in many communities all across the borough and it is therefore right that Members from all parties have an input in how the service is provided in the future.

“I thank the Members who took part in the scrutiny review. The recommendations are helpful, well researched and I am sure will help us develop the quality and availability of this service in the future.”

REPORT SUMMARY

Following a report presented to the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2016, a Task & Finish scrutiny review on Resident Parking was added to the Committee’s work programme. The main objective of the review was to understand the issues around the Resident Parking Policy and to help inform the development of a new policy for Wirral.

The scrutiny review was conducted over a number of question and answer evidence sessions and this report sets out the findings and recommendations of the Task & Finish Scrutiny Review Panel.

RECOMMENDATION/S

Cabinet endorses the findings of the report and approves all recommendations arising from this review.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1.0 REASON/S FOR RECOMMENDATION/S

Cabinet is requested to endorse the findings of this Review so that implementation of the recommendations can commence.

2.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

No other options have been considered.

3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 As part of the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee's work programme, a Task & Finish scrutiny review on Resident Parking was set up. The main objective of the review was to understand the issues around the existing Resident Parking Scheme policy for new and existing schemes and to help inform the development of a new policy for Wirral.
- 3.2 A Review Panel consisting of Councillors Jean Stapleton, Chris Blakeley and Dave Mitchell was agreed by Committee. The Panel was chaired by Councillor Jean Stapleton and the review was conducted over a number of sessions, culminating in a report that was considered and agreed at a meeting of the Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 4 July 2017.
- 3.3 The panel report is appended to this covering report and includes five recommendations on pages 22 and 23 of the report.
- 3.4 Subject to Cabinet approval of the recommendations, officers will work to implement them as quickly as possible using existing resources. Some of the proposals involve legal consultation through the Road Traffic Regulation Act and objections would be dealt with in accordance with the Council's Constitution.
- 3.5 Details on the timetable, phasing, etc. of the work required to implement the recommendations of the Review Panel will be the subject of a further report to Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee as requested by that Committee at its meeting on 4 July and Cabinet's views on these matters are welcomed.

4.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The panel report outlines proposals to fund the associated costs for the implementation, administration, maintenance and periodic review of resident parking schemes to enable the service to move towards self-financing status.

5.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Some of the recommendations from the Review Panel need to be processed in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act because they involve amendments to existing traffic regulation orders. Objections to these proposals would be dealt with in accordance with the Act and the Council's Constitution.

6.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: STAFFING, ICT AND ASSETS

- 6.1 Existing staff resources would be used to implement the recommendations of the Review Panel. Because of the scale of work required and the level of staff resource available to carry it out, consideration would need to be given to phasing the implementation and this will be the subject of a separate report to Business Overview & Scrutiny Committee, as requested by that Committee at its meeting on 4 July.

7.0 RELEVANT RISKS

- 7.1 Failure to amend the criteria as recommended by the Scrutiny Panel risks continuation of criteria that have been criticised as complex and inflexible.
- 7.2 In the current financial climate of reducing budgets and increasing demand, failure to move toward a service that is cost neutral may have implications on those services the Council is obliged to deliver.

8.0 ENGAGEMENT/CONSULTATION

- 8.1 Consultation in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act and the Council's Constitution will be necessary for those recommendations requiring an amendment to existing traffic regulation orders.

9.0 EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 There are none arising from this report. Vehicles displaying a valid blue (disabled) badge are exempt from the requirement to display a resident or visitor permit when parking in a resident bay and can park for an unlimited period.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Resident Parking Scrutiny Review Report

REFERENCE MATERIAL

SUBJECT HISTORY (last 3 years)

Council Meeting	Date