



Borough of Tamworth

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## TAMWORTH LOCAL PARKING COMMITTEE

26 November 2014

Dear Councillor

A meeting of the **Tamworth Local Parking Committee** will be held in **Committee Room 1 Marmion House, Lichfield Street, Tamworth on Wednesday, 3rd December, 2014 at 6.00 pm**. Members of the Committee are requested to attend.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'A. G. S.', written over a circular stamp.

### A G E N D A

#### NON CONFIDENTIAL

- 1 Appointment of Chair
- 2 Appointment of Vice Chair
- 3 Apologies
- 4 Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Pages 1 - 8)
- 5 Declarations of Interest

*To receive any declarations of Members' interests (pecuniary and non-pecuniary) in any matters which are to be considered at this meeting.*

*When Members are declaring a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in respect of which they have dispensation, they should specify the nature of such interest. Members should leave the room if they have a pecuniary or non-pecuniary interest in respect of which they do not have a dispensation.*

**6 Civil Parking Enforcement - Review Recommendations of the Staffordshire County Council Cabinet Member for Economy, Environment and Transport**  
(Pages 9 - 20)

(Report Attached)

**7 Traffic Regulation Order Priority List from 2014 - Staffordshire County Council**

(Discussion Item)

*People who have a disability and who would like to attend the meeting should contact Democratic Services on 01827 709264 or e-mail [committees@tamworth.gov.uk](mailto:committees@tamworth.gov.uk) preferably 24 hours prior to the meeting. We can then endeavour to ensure that any particular requirements you may have are catered for.*

To Councillors: M Couchman, M Oates, R Pritchard, and P Standen, and County Councillors C Cooke, M Greatorex, B Jenkins and S People



**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE  
TAMWORTH LOCAL PARKING  
COMMITTEE  
HELD ON 5th FEBRUARY 2014**

PRESENT: Councillor P Standen (Chair), Councillors J Jenkins

County Councillor C Cooke and County Councillor M Greatorex

The following officers were present: Andrew Barratt (Director - Assets and Environment), Joanne Sands (Neighbourhood Services Manager) and Larry Phillips (Car Parks & CCTV Supervisor), C Thomas and R Rayson.

**54 APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors R Pritchard and M Thurgood and County Councillors B Jenkins and S People.

**55 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 September 2013 were approved and signed as a correct record.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by County Councillor C Cooke)*

**56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**57 TO CONSIDER AND FEEDBACK ON THE REPORTS FROM THE  
STAFFORDSHIRE JOINT PARKING BOARD ON 16 DECEMBER 2013**

• **Civil Parking Enforcement Review**

Mr Rayson presented the report for discussion and consideration by the Local Parking Committee of the process for the review of CPE by Staffordshire County Council beyond March 2015.

County Councillor Greatorex queried if the process requires endorsement by Tamworth Borough Council Cabinet. Mr Barratt confirmed that the consultation had included the then Portfolio Holder Councillor J Oates who had stated the Borough's position that the service is welcomed and liked but that it should not cost the Borough.

It was agreed that the service is working in Tamworth but the fact that it is not self funding is secondary and therefore it should be recognised that there will be a cost if it is to continue beyond March 2015.

It was also stressed by Mr Barratt that there has been no decision on how the report will affect Tamworth and any financial implications will be presented to Cabinet in the longer term.

County Councillor Cooke requested any evidence that traffic is moving better as result of CPE. Mr Barratt indicated that the number of on-street penalties has dropped which suggests motorists are not parking in contravention and the penalties on car parks has been maintained, together with income which suggests sustained use. Mr Rayson also confirmed that there were fewer requests for Traffic Restriction Orders.

Mr Barratt also confirmed that at the agreement was that Staffs County were to fund any deficit for the first 5 years of operation (including off street enforcement in Tamworth which was previously at a low level) and the ongoing deficit has resulted in a review.

County Councillor Cooke also asked how the review will affect the Local Parking Committee. Mr Rayson confirmed that the initial 5 year agreement was to underwrite this and the review will cover all aspects of governance providing outcomes are met and the service is delivered as per the objectives of CPE.

Councillor Standen noted that the report contains reference for option to continuance and Mr Rayson confirmed that feedback is required on these.

County Councillor Greatorex suggested that in the spirit of greater co-operation and localism that the process of review is good practice in the fact that the County will not adopt the policy themselves but will seek to work with districts and therefore the Committee or something like it will and should continue.

Mr Barratt confirmed that during the process, the Local Parking Committee will be the body to make recommendation for Tamworth to ensure the service, which is very useful, remains without detriment to the authority. The review is seeking new ways to deliver, but it does come with a cost and this is the opportunity to re-shape and transform. Any financial implications arising from the review and the final local decision will be made by the Council's Cabinet in due course.

It was confirmed by Mr Barratt also that the County do not have an option to cease providing CPE, but there is nothing to say how this was to be delivered and reasonable to do so, however as 'the agent', Tamworth Borough Council can say no to delivering the on-street element.

Councillor J Jenkins agreed that we do need a service to ensure people are shopping and using our car parks and noted that it does seem to be vibrant.

**RESOLVED:** That the Joint Parking Board report on Civil Parking Enforcement Review be noted and endorsed.

*(Moved by County Councillor M Greatorex and seconded by County Councillor C Cooke)*

- **Prioritisation of Parking Related Traffic Regulation Orders**

Mr Rayson presented the report on the proposed new process for agreeing the priority for TROs in the County to use by Local Parking Committees in deciding the 4 priorities per year. The report provides a clearer more subjective methodology and requires feedback from and endorsement by the Committee.

Mr Rayson explained the scoring matrix, ranking each request by officer lead criteria to assist members in making decisions.

County Councillor Greatorex queried Minute 52 of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> September 2013 when it was agreed that Mr Rayson should meet all Councillors with regard to Tamworth priority lists.

Mr Rayson confirmed that this had not yet been done and that he would like to explain the process using the lists outstanding for Tamworth. He understood that these had not yet been circulated for endorsement.

It was moved that **Agenda Item 7** be discussed as part of this item by the Chair and the list for Tamworth was circulated for further discussion. See minute 59.

County Councillor Greatorex asked how the Councillor's community funded traffic orders might affect delivery of the prioritised Committee orders. Mr Rayson confirmed that once agreed to 4 per year, the County would be committed to deliver these; therefore other orders would not affect this.

It was agreed that any requests with a score less than 10 will be removed from the list and the applicant informed. Any new issues added, especially on grounds of safety can be assessed at any time and added to the programme.

**RESOLVED:** That the principles of the Joint Parking Board report on Prioritisation of parking related Traffic Regulation Orders be noted and endorsed.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by County Councillor C Cooke)*

- **Residents Parking Zones – Local Champion and Prioritisation**

Mr Rayson presented the report on the draft proposed policy for RPZ, championed by local people for feedback.

He stated that the report has come about as a result of lessons learned from the delivery of RPZs elsewhere in the County. The feedback has been that the residents had not been consulted at an early stage to determine if a RPZ was a resolution to a problem locally.

The community champion can ascertain local feeling, agree the process and lead the decision to apply. Mr Rayson led the Committee through the flow chart process.

There was some discussion about the issue of the community being 'put off' by a political lead – Mr Rayson stated that although the majority of the RPZs do go to County members, the outcomes may be different from the current time with this process and does not depend on political party.

The Chair suggested that the Champion should not be a member of the LPC and County Councillor Cooke agreed that at the very least an interest should be declared and clarity was much better.

County Councillor Greatorex agreed with the process and the fact that the community could be more involved. He expressed concern that the person should be named to represent the community and queried if any administration support may be available from County.

Mr Rayson stated that the guidance contains nominated forms and he would feed back about the administration.

The Chair invited a question from County Councillor Ben Adams (from the public area) who expressed concern that if the Champion was not a councillor or they did not agree with the residents wishes/had personal interests they may be opening themselves to abuse etc.

County Councillor Greatorex stressed that the declaration of all interests should be made (whether personal or pecuniary).

There was some discussion around this and ultimately it was decided that the governance and progress of the scheme would assist this as the Local Parking Committee ultimately need to agree that schemes are taken forward.

**RESOLVED:** That recommendation of the report on RPZ- Local Champions be noted and endorsed with recommendation that the position of LPC members be made clear.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by Councillor P Standen)*

**58 PROGRESS REPORT ON CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT IN TAMWORTH 1  
APRIL TO 31 DECEMBER 2013**

Mr Barratt presented the report for the progress of CPE in Tamworth to 31 December 2013.

Members were asked to note the slight downturn in deployed hours, but that the amount of PCNs issued has remained static.

The service has a forecast deficit to the end of the year of £40,000 which is funded by County.

Cancellations remain at 16%.

County Councillor Greatorex noted the amount of PCNs cancelled after proof of pay and display. It was agreed that the offence was failure to display correctly, but under the policy, the proof of P&D ticket at first offence was deemed to be reasonable.

Mr Barratt also pointed out the report on street visited, requested at previous meetings. County Councillor Greatorex stated that this information was very useful as proof visits. It was agreed that this information would not be publically available, but could be requested when required on specific enquiry by Councillors and/or the public.

**RESOLVED:** That the contents of the report be accepted.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by County Councillor M Greatorex)*

**59 PROGRESS REPORT ON TAMWORTH RESIDENT'S PARKING ZONE  
(ALBION STREET, NEW STREET, WEST STREET, VICTORIA ROAD)**

Mrs Sands presented a brief summary of progress on the Tamworth RPZ following meetings with the County Highways management.

It was noted that the costings for permits was omitted and Members asked for this to be forwarded. Mr Rayson also agreed to confirm the position of blue badge non-residents parking in the RPZ area.

**RESOLVED:** That the progress report be noted with agreed updates.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by County Councillor M Greatorex)*

**60 PRIORITISATION OF PARKING RELATED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS  
IN TAMWORTH 2014 ONWARDS**

The most recent matrix of outstanding TRO request for Tamworth was handed round by Mr Rayson (discussed as part of Agenda item 4). The matrix was taken from outstanding members divisional highway programme requests.

It was agreed that because Mr Rayson has not yet fully discussed all the outstanding items with Councillors and the rationale for the scoring.

Mr Rayson stressed that the LPC can seek to change scoring when discussing priorities, however the list represents a good grounding for discussions and that a meeting would be set up with each Member by the end of February for assessment. It was agreed that the any decisions should therefore be deferred until the next meeting in July 2014.

Councillor J Jenkins asked why there were no schools on the list. Mr Rayson reiterated that these were previous priorities and on occasion solutions may be unrealistic to deliver and, therefore all must be looked at closely and scored.

County Councillor Cooke emphasised that traffic orders simply sought to try and ease concerns and could not find immediate solutions. Mr Rayson stated that the ongoing discussions would affect those outcomes.

Due to the funding for delivery in 2014/15, Mr Barratt suggested that the power to defer the decision to the Chair regarding priority could be a solution once the meetings had taken place and Mr Rayson could present report to Councillor Standen for decision in early March.

**RESOLVED:** To support the Chair's delegation to act and approve the TRO work plan 2014/15 subject to consultation with relevant Members

*(Moved by County Councillor M Greatorex and seconded by County Councillor C Cooke)*

**61 SAXON CLOSE - UPDATE ON PARKING PROPOSALS DISCUSSED AT  
PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Committee accepted a verbal update from Mr Rayson who informed Members that following a meeting with County Councillor Greatorex, it was felt the area, currently subject to planning issues and re-development, did not have a further requirement for traffic restrictions at this time.

The Chair asked about the bottlenecks at the entrance to the garage area and if anything parking restrictions had been considered. Mr Rayson confirmed this, but again it was felt that in the short term this would not resolve issues.



Councillor J Jenkins stated that the additional parking areas provided as result of initial development seemed to have improved the area and eased the problem.

Mr Rayson stated that the discussion echoed County Councillor Greatorex' comments and as it was an ever changing situation, he proposed that the area remain on the prioritisation list for monitoring and have a further discussion in six months time and/or at other LPCs as appropriate.

**RESOLVED:** That the update be noted and that the area remain on the priority list for further monitoring at future meetings.

*(Moved by Councillor J Jenkins and seconded by County Councillor M Greatorex)*

## **62 DISCUSSION ON RESPONSES (IF ANY) TO THE GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON PARKING**

Mrs Sands confirmed that no feedback or further comments were received to pass to County regarding the consultation.

Mr Rayson will feed back and the submission on behalf of the Joint Parking Board will be copied to all LPCs with update on progress when received.

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Chair

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Local Members Interest  
N/A

## Tamworth Local Parking Committee Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014

### Civil Parking Enforcement - Review

#### Recommendations of the Cabinet Member for Economy, Environment and Transport.

- 1 That the Joint Parking Committee notes progress on the review of Civil Parking Enforcement since the last update.
- 2 That the Committee notes the content of the report taken to the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 outlining the draft business case for the preferred method of delivery.
- 3 That the Committee notes the decision taken by the County on 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014 about the arrangements for on-street civil parking enforcement and associated matters from April 2015.
- 4 That the Committee notes, and is provided with the opportunity to comment on the ongoing work that will take place during the establishment, transition and mobilisation of the Clear Streets Partnership in relation to the required outcomes.

#### Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and Director for Place

##### Background

##### Reasons for recommendations

- 5 Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) was introduced under the Traffic Management Act 2004 and transferred the responsibility for the enforcement of on-street parking offences that do not result in an endorsement from the police to the local traffic authority. DPE was introduced in Staffordshire in two phases.
- 6 The first, Tranche 1 covering the Districts of East Staffordshire, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stafford and Staffordshire Moorlands was introduced in 2007. Tranche 2 covered the remaining Districts of Cannock Chase, Lichfield, South Staffordshire and Tamworth was introduced in 2009. The Agreement for the Enforcement of On-Street Parking Controls with each District Council was written with a six year period in mind.
- 7 The primary objective of the adoption of Civil Parking Enforcement within the County of Staffordshire was to:
  - Maintain and, where possible, improve the flow of traffic thereby making the County a more pleasant and environmentally safe place to live and visit.
  - Take into account the needs of local residents, shops and businesses, thereby sustaining the County and District Councils' economic growth.

- Actively support the needs of disabled people bearing in mind that, in some cases, they are unable to use public transport and are entirely dependent upon the use of a car. This will ensure that people with disabilities are able to have equal access to all facilities within the County.
- Actively discourage indiscriminate parking that causes obstruction to other motorists, public transport, pedestrians, cyclists and people with disabilities. This will ensure that the Districts remain accessible to all equally and safely.

## **Engagement during the review**

- 8 At the meeting of the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board in July 2012, it was agreed that a Scoping Paper outlining proposals for a review of CPE was produced. The paper was circulated in August 2012 and agreed by the Board in December 2012.
- 9 In March 2013, an additional meeting of the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board considered progress on the initial stages of the review and, an opportunity for Members of the Board to begin discussions on how Civil Parking Enforcement in Staffordshire could be delivered in the future.
- 10 In June 2013, the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board considered an update on the review and, the conclusions of its initial stage. The Chairman of the Board (Staffordshire County Council Cabinet Member for Children, Communities and Localism) confirmed that the County Council would be making a decision on the future of the CPE service before the end of 2013.
- 11 The review identified a number of strengths and opportunities to improve the service in line with the Council's outcomes: "For a Connected Staffordshire where everyone has the opportunity to be healthy, happy and prosperous". These are summarised below.

### **Strengths**

#### **Clear Streets objectives**

- Clear Streets has generally achieved its objectives, motorists are now more compliant in the way they park. The total number of penalty charge notices (on-street and off-street i.e. public car parks) has reduced from a peak of over 63,000 in the first full year of operation to less than 46,000 in 2012-13 i.e. 71% of the peak showing that people are now more compliant in the way they park both on and off street albeit only the former contributes to the Clear Streets objectives.<sup>1</sup>
- Numbers of penalty charge notices issued on-street have reduced by a similar percentage, i.e. 72% from a peak of over 28,000 to below 21,000 in 2012-13.
- Residents in Staffordshire are more satisfied with measures to tackle illegal on street parking than they were in 2008. In 2012 44% of residents surveyed were satisfied compared to 37% in 2008.<sup>2</sup>
- Residents in Staffordshire are more satisfied with restrictions of parking on busy roads than they were in 2008. In 2012 49% of residents surveyed were satisfied compared to 43% in 2008.

### **Reputation and Governance**

<sup>1</sup> Staffordshire Parking Board – Annual Reports - <http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=204>

<sup>2</sup> National Highways & Transport Public Satisfaction Surveys - <http://nhtsurvey.econtrack.co.uk/Default.aspx>

- The service is in line with statutory requirements<sup>3</sup> and best practice<sup>4</sup> and is generally delivered effectively with a clear commitment to service delivery and good customer service from officers and providers involved.

## **Weaknesses**

### **Clear Streets**

- Whilst 'Clear Streets' has a clear set of objectives, there is generally no overall joint parking strategy that brings together on-street and off-street parking provision and management
- The existence of Local Parking Committees leads to an inconsistent approach to the provision of additional on-street parking spaces that support the local economy, Residents' Parking Zones and charges associated with these areas of activity.

### **Finance**

- The service continues to operate at a net cost (£239k in 2012-13).
- The Districts that regularly operate at a net surplus are those that operate on-street charging.
- There are no indications that the enforcement element of parking will on its own become self-financing under the existing arrangements for enforcement and if levels of compliance with traffic restrictions continue to increase, the level of deficit is likely to rise.
- The County Council has no direct financial control over the cost of the service, even though it underwrites the cost of the service

### **Community**

- There is significant and ongoing demand on the Council to provide additional on-street parking restrictions. Additional resources have been provided for this where set up costs have been paid off and, the service is in surplus.
- There is an increasing demand to tackle unsafe parking in more locations, to further increase the hours that enforcement takes place and, to provide more enforcement outside schools.

12 Following workshops with Members of the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board and, consideration of Civil Parking Enforcement at the meeting of the Prosperous Select Committee on 6th September 2013 the following additional outcomes were recommended for the commissioning of Parking Enforcement services in the future.

- A service that is financially sustainable at a level that supports the required outcomes
- A cohesive and consistent approach to on-street parking and enforcement across the County that supports the local economy and town centres
- A service that is more responsive to the needs of local residents, shops and businesses
- A flexible and adaptable resource to deliver enforcement
- A service that is able to take advantage of opportunities for joint commissioning
- A parking strategy that brings together on-street and off-street parking provision and management.

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<sup>3</sup> Statutory Guidance - <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20120904033926/http://www.dft.gov.uk/publications/tma-part-6-cpe-statutory-guidance/>

<sup>4</sup> Operation Guidance to Local Authorities : parking policy and enforcement <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/operational-guidance-to-local-authorities-parking-policy-and-enforcement>

- 13 On 25<sup>th</sup> September 2013, the County Council Cabinet Member for Children, Communities and Localism) wrote to Members of the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board, Chairs of Local Parking Committees and, District Council Nominated Officers advising them of the paper to be taken to the Staffordshire County Council Cabinet.
- 14 On 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013, the Cabinet of Staffordshire County Council considered a paper on Keeping Staffordshire Moving : Civil Parking Enforcement and resolved that new arrangements should be sought for the delivery of Civil Parking Enforcement in Staffordshire to achieve the outcomes previously summarised in paragraphs 6 and 9.
- 15 A number of broad options were initially identified for further consideration including
  - a. Negotiating new Agreements with the Districts.
  - b. Groups or a consortium of Districts providing on-street services through a reduced number of Agreements.
  - c. Working with Districts on a framework agreement for shared services across Staffordshire for on and off street parking.
  - d. A County Council contract for on-street services with Districts making separate arrangements for their off-street car parks
  - e. Provision of all services through a County Council directly employed team
- 16 On 16<sup>th</sup> December 2013, following the decisions made by the Staffordshire County Council Cabinet (SCC), the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board considered an update on the review including the required outcomes for the commissioning of the future service and, a timetable for its completion before the end of March 2015.
- 17 In the period January to March 2014, each of the eight district Local Parking Committees (LPC) received a report from the County Councils Cabinet Member for Children, Communities and Localism informing them for the review and inviting each Committee to express its view on the future arrangements against the required outcomes and timetable.
- 18 In general, each of the Committees noted the contents of the report, the report taken to the JSPB and the timetable for the review. The following additional resolutions were taken.
  - a. The East Staffordshire LPC also resolved that Staffordshire County Council note the Borough Council's expression of interest in continuing the service in the Borough of East Staffordshire.
  - b. The Newcastle-under-Lyme LPC also resolved that Staffordshire County Council be informed that the Authority wishes to maintain locally controlled Civil Parking Enforcement
  - c. The Lichfield LPC also resolved that consideration be given to involving Parish Councils in future Civil Parking Enforcement Schemes
- 19 On 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014 an event was held with around 10 suppliers representing the majority of aspects of the service from back office systems and processing of noticing through to enforcement and equipment suppliers. The key issues arising from the event are summarised below.
  - A recognition that the industry has Page 12 significantly in the last 5 years

- Increasing capability and use of technology, ICT, handheld devices, SMART cars, agile working, using cars as a base
  - Large component of service cost is accommodation
  - Suggestion that an 'all in one' solution would be best
  - The market will continue to evolve, need for SCC to ensure that we build in flexibility to take advantage
  - The market is fairly new to the commissioning approach (outcomes) and is generally used to output based contracts i.e. specification and price
  - Many commented that they had not been to this type of event before and welcomed the opportunity for early engagement
- 20 Irrespective of the new delivery method chosen, in order to begin the process of achieving the required outcomes, the first step was for the County Council to serve notice on the district councils. The notice to end the existing on-street civil parking enforcement agreement from 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 was therefore given in March 2014.
- 21 In the period January to June a number of meetings were held between officers of the county council, district councils and Stoke on Trent City Council to explore the various options. During these discussions a further option was also identified and considered i.e. the development of a county wide 'Clear Streets partnership' with Stoke-on-Trent City Council including enforcement and back offices activities.
- 22 Discussions with district councils indicated that:
- The preferred option for the majority was either status quo or a variation to the existing arrangement. There was however recognition that there could be some benefits from economies of scale resulting from combined arrangements for the delivery of enforcement and management;
  - Some districts considered a consortia approach to be relevant however only one expressed a clear interest during initial discussions and this was not progressed;
  - One district (Cannock Chase) has advised the County Council that following its Cabinet meeting on 20th March 2014 "the Council ceases to undertake Civil parking Enforcement on behalf of the County Council with effect from 31st March 2015"
  - A further district has expressed an informal view that it does not wish to continue carrying out parking enforcement on street
  - At least one district is looking at using different systems for the management of off-street car parks. This could reduce the future need for off street enforcement and the benefits of retaining a combined on and off-street enforcement service
  - The majority (if not all) are not prepared to consider any financial risk over and above the existing arrangements.
- 23 On 8th July 2014, the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board received a report on the draft business case for the new arrangements. The report identified a partnership with Stoke-on-Trent City Council as the preferred option. The main issues raised by the Joint Staffordshire Parking Board were around TUPE and whether or not the districts would be able to secure an off-street enforcement service through the arrangement if required. A copy of the report is available at <http://moderngov.staffordshire.gov.uk/documents/s51730/CPE%20Proposal%20report%20revised%20final%20version.pdf>
- 24 Reassurance was provided that in relation to the on-street element TUPE would apply and, that the districts would be able to seek off-street enforcement services and back office services from Stoke-on-Trent City Council if required.

## **Clear Streets**

- 25 The review of the existing service carried out in 2012-13 showed that the objectives of Clear Streets (paragraph 6) were being achieved, people park more considerately, satisfaction with the way that illegal on-street parking is being tackled has improved but, there is an increasing local demand for enforcement and parking restrictions.
- 26 The new arrangements will continue to deploy resources against a clear set of enforcement priorities established to support the Clear Streets. Civil Enforcement Officers will however be dedicated to on-street enforcement.

## **A service that is financially sustainable at a level that supports the required outcomes**

- 27 Under current arrangements, the enforcement service is provided and managed by each district with the county council underwriting any deficit. On-street enforcement activity continues to operate at a net cost to the county council (£239k in 2013-14). A combined service provides increased opportunity to reduce overheads through shared back office and management, a reduction of the number of organisations involved from twelve to two, and greater purchasing power particularly with a single brand.
- 28 A qualitative analysis has been carried out against each of the options against the required outcomes. Two options emerged; a county wide framework for shared services on and off street; a 'Clear Streets' partnership with Stoke-on-Trent City Council. A summary of the analysis is provided in Appendix 1.
- 29 As the majority of contract costs will be staffing and TUPE is likely to apply, the extent of any cost savings are not fully determined at this stage but are more likely to arise through the combination of the service into a single delivery arrangement with a suitable partner. Engagement with the market has also confirmed that an end to end arrangement is likely to be the most efficient way of delivering the service.
- 30 A shared service arrangement should incur reduced start-up costs, a shortened time to establish the arrangement, improved performance, reduced duplication and lower costs. The volume of work commissioned through the joint arrangement will also be greater with flexibility to adapt to changing circumstances.
- 31 The finances for the current service are managed separately in an individual district account. Where the account remains in surplus at the end of the agreement (after taking into account any decommissioning costs and, set up costs within that district) any surplus will be ear-marked for highway improvements within the district in which the surplus was generated.

## **Future governance**

- 32 The Joint Staffordshire Parking Board and, Local Parking Committees form part of the existing agreement. New governance arrangements to take over responsibility for the current terms of reference for these bodies will be developed as part of the establishment of the 'Clear Streets Partnership' and will be in place by April 2015.
- 33 The County Council already has a local network of Community Highway Liaison teams who coordinate Members "Divisional Highway Programmes". From April 2015 it is anticipated that the prioritisation of parking related restrictions will form part of this process. This will ensure that the way these requests are considered remains democratically accountable through liaison with parish and other local bodies enabling local concerns to be identified and **Page 14** prioritised.



- 34 Requests for Residents Parking Zones will continue to be technically assessed in a similar way to the existing process. A new arrangement will be required across the county for their prioritisation and the detail of this is under consideration as part of the transition. This will take into account the need to engage with key stakeholders sufficiently early in the process to ensure that legislative processes can subsequently be followed in an efficient and effective manner. A key part of the process will be the development of the role of the 'Local Champion' to ensure that the benefits, disadvantages and costs of any such scheme are understood and the scheme has the required level of support from the local community.
- 35 In developing the new arrangements there will be appropriate engagement with key stakeholders that will be part of any governance arrangements.

### **Communications**

- 36 A communications plan for the transition is being developed and will look to take advantage of different forms of communication including for example district council and county council publications.

### **Operational Delivery**

- 37 Enforcement activity will be focussed on achieving the agreed outcomes including a more flexible and adaptable approach to on-street enforcement which will see resources deployed across district boundaries.
- 38 The new delivery model will take advantage of 'agile' methods of working. Staff could for example be deployed from a variety of locations including but not limited to highway depots, touchdown centres and other county (and non-county) council premises.

### **Reasons for recommendations**

- 39 This is the first opportunity to advise the Local Parking Committee of the decision taken by the County Council in relation to the future delivery of on-street parking enforcement and associated services.

### **Background Papers**

1. Staffordshire County Council - decision 9<sup>th</sup> September 2014
2. Joint Staffordshire Parking Board 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014 Civil Parking Enforcement – Review
3. Staffordshire County Council Cabinet 16<sup>th</sup> October 2013 – Keeping Staffordshire Moving – Civil Parking Enforcement (Item 37)
4. Joint Staffordshire Parking Board 21<sup>st</sup> June 2013
5. Joint Staffordshire Parking Board 26<sup>th</sup> March 2013
6. Joint Staffordshire Parking Board 18<sup>th</sup> December 2012

**Author's Name:** David Walters, the County Council's Nominated Officer for the service

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**Room No:** Staffordshire Place 1, Built County

## Appendix 1 : Analysis of options against outcomes

	(a) District	(b) District consortia	(c) Single framework on & off street	(d) City on-street (external provider)	(e) City on-street (Inhouse)	(f) Clear Streets Partnership with SoT
<b>Maintain and, where possible, improve the flow of traffic</b>	M	M	M	H	H	H
<b>Take into account the needs of local residents, shops and businesses to support economic growth.</b>	H	H	H	H	H	H
<b>Actively support the needs of disabled people in terms of accessibility.</b>	H	H	H	H	H	H
<b>Actively discourage indiscriminate parking that causes obstruction</b>	H	H	H	H	H	H
<b>A service that is financially sustainable at a level that supports the required outcomes</b>						
Efficiency from operating both on and off street enforcement	H	H	M	L	L	M
County Council financial control/risk on-street	L	L	M	H	H	H
District Council financial control/risk off-street	H	H	M			
Reduced overheads through shared back office and management		L	M	L	L	H
Efficiency from greater purchasing power		L	H	M	L	H
<b>A cohesive and consistent approach to on-street parking and enforcement across the County that supports the local economy and town centres</b>						
Consistency of approach to on-street enforcement	L	M	H	H	H	H
Single brand	L	L	M	H	H	H
Single point of contact	L	L	M	H	H	H
<b>Consistency of approach to on-street parking</b>	L	L	M	H	H	H
<b>A service that is more responsive to the needs of local residents, shops and businesses</b>						

	(a) District	(b) District consortia	(c) Single framework on & off street	(d) City on-street (external provider)	(e) City on-street (Inhouse)	(f) Clear Streets Partnership with SoT
Local knowledge	H	H	H	H	H	H
Local Parking Committee	H	M	L			
Local delivery	H	H	H	H	H	H
<b>A flexible and adaptable resource to deliver enforcement</b>						
Cross District boundary working		L	M	H	H	H
Ability to meet rising demand for enforcement		L	M	M	M	M
Greater opportunity for county wide intelligence lead enforcement		L	H	H	H	H
Ability to share costs to upskill management/workforce		L	M	H	H	H
Ability to take advantage of new technology/methods of working		L	M	H	H	H
<b>A service that is able to take advantage of opportunities for joint commissioning</b>						
Joint on and off street enforcement by the same team	H	H	M			
Opportunity to combine parking, environment & highway enforcement	M	M	H	M	M	M
Opportunity to combine with other Police enforcement	M	M	M	H	H	H
Long term agency agreement	H	H	H			H
<b>A parking strategy that brings together on-street and off-street parking provision and management.</b>						
A holistic approach to on and off street parking at a local level	H	M	M			M
Ability to meet rising demand for additional restrictions	L	L	M	H	H	H
High	11	9	10	17	17	20
Medium	3	6	16	3	2	4
Low	6	12	1	2	3	0
Total (H=3, M=2, L=1)	45	51	63	59	58	66

**Appendix 2: Community Impact Assessment for “Keeping Staffordshire Moving : Civil Parking Enforcement**

	Impact Assessment	
	+ve/neutral/ -ve	Further information [Degree of impact and signpost to where implications reflected within the report/main Assessment]
<b>Assessment next to Outcomes and impact areas</b>		
Prosperity, knowledge, skills, aspirations	<b>+ve</b>	The proposed scheme will ensure that Clear Streets are provided in order that the county remains attractive to businesses and visitors alike supporting the drive for inward investment.
Living safely	<b>+ve</b>	Attractive, well maintained highways help develop a sense of community, helping residents access services, reducing social isolation, crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour.
Supporting vulnerable people	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Supporting healthier living	<b>+ve</b>	Ensuring that a high quality, functional built environment is available can increase transport choice, positively influencing health by connecting people to jobs and services; encouraging walking and cycling.
Highways and transport networks	<b>+ve</b>	The highway network is fundamental to Staffordshire’s economy and to the wellbeing of its population, carrying large numbers of people by public and private transport and delivering goods and services every day of the year. The highway also serves as a network that enables the provision of essential supplies of water, power and communications.
Learning, education and culture	<b>+ve</b>	Appropriate provision and management of parking can enhance the quality of life for people living in town centres, supporting the local economy and cultural offer.
Children and young people	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Citizens & decision making/improved community involvement	<b>+ve</b>	The proposed scheme would ensure that local communities are able to contribute to the sensitive management of parking on the highway and the local priorities for additional/amended parking restrictions and enforcement.
Physical environment including climate change	<b>+ve</b>	A reduction in the amount of activity of the network and, reduced levels of congestion associated with essential highway and utility company activity will reduce the level of CO2 emissions.
Maximisation of use of	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>

community property portfolio		
<b>Equalities impact</b>		
Age	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Disability	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Ethnicity	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Gender	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Religion/Belief	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
Sexuality	<b>Neutral</b>	<b>N/A</b>
	<b>Impact/implications</b>	
<b>Resource and Value for money</b> In consultation with finance representative	<b>The resource and value for money implications have been raised in the main body of the report and will continue to be addressed throughout the review.</b>	
<b>Risks identified and mitigation offered</b> From corporate risk register categorisation	...	
<b>Legal imperative to change</b> In consultation with legal representative	...	

**Health Impact Assessment screening:**

- In summary no significant negative impacts on public health have been identified in respect to the outcomes of this report.

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