

Cherwell District Council

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

28 May 2019

Car Parking Task and Finish Group

Report of the Assistant Director: Environmental Services

This report is public

Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to feedback to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee the outcome of the Car Parking Task and Finish Group.

1.0 Recommendations

The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is recommended:

- 1.1 To note the work of the Car Parking Task and Finish group
- 1.2 To support the continuation of funding a Thames Valley Police PCSO from September 2019 to March 2021
- 1.3 To support & recommend to Executive the proposed Car Parking Strategy & Car Parking Action Plan

2.0 Introduction

- 2.1 Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee set up a Task and Finish Group to examine car parking. The car parking management contract with Apcoa had commenced in June 2017 and the performance of the new arrangements could be reviewed to help set the future strategy of car parking.
- 2.2 A number of Task and Finish meetings were held with the first meeting being 4 September 2018. Further meetings followed 9 October 2018 & 5 December 2018. A further meeting took place on 6 March 2019. .
- 2.3 A number of issues were presented by officers and the slides are attached in the Appendices 3-6.
- 2.4 From Member suggestions and following consultations meetings with Banbury BID, Bicester Vision and Kidlington Parish Clerk a draft Car Parking Strategy with Action Plan has been developed
- 2.5 The proposed Car Parking Strategy with Action Plan are in the Appendices 1 & 2
- 2.6 A key part of the new strategy is to explore Civil Parking enforcement with Oxfordshire County Council, South Oxfordshire District Council and Vale of White Horse Council.

A project team has been set up and a consultant to advise on the full range of implications, costs and risks is being tendered.

- 2.7 The Council has an enforcement arrangement with Thames Valley Police which runs until September 2019. This Council funds a PCSO, at £30k/year and a full time equivalent PCSO carries out traffic enforcement. Appendix 9 sets out the number of tickets issued. The proposal is to continue with this arrangement until April 2021 to allow time to fully explore civil car parking enforcement

3.0 Report Details

- 3.1 This Council operates a large number of car parks in Banbury, Bicester and in Kidlington. They generate a substantial source of income, around £1.8 million per annum but there are also significant operating costs to ensure the car parks are operated safely and meet the needs of all the different users.
- 3.2 In June 2017 the operation of the car parks was outsourced to Apcoa for an initial five year period. The implementation of this new contract has meant some significant changes such as new car parking machines which not only allow card & contactless payment but also provide much more data on car parking usage.
- 3.3 These changes allowed elected members to review the successes of the new arrangements and to help set a new car parking strategy for the future.
- 3.4 Following four meetings of the Task and Finish group consultations meeting were set up with Banbury BID and Bicester Vision, The consultation slides are in Appendix 7 & Appendix 8.

4.0 Conclusion and Reasons for Recommendations

- 4.1 The Task and finish group have considered the new car parking arrangement with Apcoa and have developed a proposed Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan.
- 4.2 The proposed strategy will go forward to Executive in July, a public consultation will take place and a equalities impact assessment will also take place. The final Strategy and Action Plan should go forward for final approval in early autumn 2019.

5.0 Consultation

Task and Finish group Overview & Scrutiny
Banbury BID
Bicester Vision
Kidlington Parish Clerk

6.0 Alternative Options and Reasons for Rejection

- 6.1 The following alternative options have been identified

Option 1: To recommend to Executive the new Car Parking Strategy & Action Plan.

Option 2: To reject the Car Parking Strategy & Action Plan and ask officers to reconsider the strategy.

7.0 Implications

Financial and Resource Implications

- 7.1 Car Parking is a significant source of income to the Council. The proposed strategy has no direct immediate impact on this income but any changes will be considered in future business planning cycles.

Comments to be checked by Kelly Wheeler Principal Accountant, 01327 32230, kelly.wheeler@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

Legal Implications

- 7.2 There are no legal implications with the adoption of this strategy.

With outsourcing of the council's parking management service outsourced to Apcoa, officers have rightly liaised with that company in formulating the parking strategy it wishes to present to the Executive, which is the appropriate forum for approval.

Comments checked by: Richard Hawtin, Team Leader: Non-contentious, Email: richard.hawtin@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk, Telephone: 01295 221695

- 7.3 Car Parking can be an area of significant comment from users and businesses. It is important a balance exists between the different stakeholders and this strategy gives more visibility to the medium term car parking goals

Comments checked by Louise Tustian, Team Leader Performance, 01295 221786, Louise.Tustian@cherwellandsouthnorthants.gov.uk

8.0 Decision Information

Key Decision

Financial Threshold Met **No**

Community Impact Threshold Met **No**

Wards Affected

All

Links to Corporate Plan and Policy Framework

Cherwell: Safe, Clean and Green

Lead Councillor

Councillor Dan Sames, Lead Member for Clean and Green

Document Information

Appendix No	Title
1	Proposed Car Parking Strategy
2	Proposed Action Plan
3	Presentation to Task & Finish Group Sept 2018
4	Presentation to Task and Finish Group Oct 2018
5	Presentation to Task and Finish Group Dec 2018
6	Presentation to Task and Finish Group March 2019
7	Presentation to Banbury BID
8	Presentation to Bicester Vision
9	Car Parking enforcement
Background Papers	
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