

Report of Head of Planning and Local Development

PARKING STRATEGY ADVISORY GROUP

1 Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek approval to set up a parking strategy advisory group of five members of services committee to advise on the production of a parking strategy to feed into the Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough.

2 Executive summary

- 2.1 This report seeks approval to set up a parking strategy advisory group to consider the topics that have arisen following consultation and gathering of background evidence on the Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough and other enquiries received on parking.

3 Appendices

Appendix 1 – draft terms of reference of the parking strategy advisory group.

4 Proposed action:

- 4.1 The committee is invited to RECOMMEND that a parking strategy advisory group is set up consisting of five members of Services Committee, adopting the terms of reference attached to this report.**

5 Background

- 5.1 The Plan for the Borough of Wellingborough (PBW) is being prepared to help guide future planning decisions in the area. It will add local detail to the strategic policies in the North Northamptonshire Joint Core Strategy (JCS) which is also being reviewed. The aim is to adopt the JCS by early 2016 and the PBW by April/May 2017. Together these documents will form the 'local plan' for the borough. The JCS will comprise part 1 of the local plan and the PBW part 2. Resources to undertake the review of the plan were approved by the Resources Committee on 11 December 2013.
- 5.2 The PBW will replace the Town Centre Area Action Plan (adopted in 2009), and the saved policies from The Borough of Wellingborough Local Plan (1999 and 2004). These documents were prepared before the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was issued by government and they need to be updated.

- 5.3 As part of this update transport modelling will need to be undertaken and a parking strategy prepared.
- 5.4 In addition to this a number of enquiries have been made about residents parking schemes, the creation of new car parks and parking outside particular schools.

6 Discussion

- 6.1 This advisory group will provide a mechanism for officers to raise topics that will arise, or have already arisen, as part of the PBW transport modelling as well as the enquires received on parking. Any recommendations of the advisory group will be reported to services committee.

7 Legal powers

- 7.1 The Localism Act 2011 and Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

8 Financial and value for money implications

There are no financial implications from setting up this advisory group.

9 Risk analysis

Members will determine the content of the BWP via the committee system. Inevitably a plan of this magnitude will require a considerable amount of preparation by officers which could – if there is no discussion with members – be at odds with the preferred approach. The advice of an advisory group of this kind will provide an opportunity for officers to have an understanding of the strategy members wish to take and thereby focus their efforts more effectively.

10 Implications for resources, and stronger and safer communities and equalities

There are no implications from setting up this advisory group, when any decisions are necessary a report will be brought back to services committee.

11 Author and contact officer

Victoria Phillipson, Principal Planning Policy and Regeneration Manager

12 Consultees

Julie Thomas, Head of Planning and Local Development
Liz Elliot, Head of Finance
Bridget Lawrence, Head of Resources

13 Background papers

None

Parking strategy advisory group

Draft Terms of Reference October 2015

Membership - The Group will be comprised of:

- Five members of the services committee reflecting the political balance of the council

This will not be a decision making body so it is not intended that members of the general public be allowed to attend, unless specifically invited in the capacity of consultant nor that the notes of the group's meetings be made public.

Objectives

To enable councillors and council officers to discuss options in relation to a parking strategy so that members can make specific recommendations to Services Committee. This will be informed by the transport modelling to be done as part of the plan for the borough of Wellingborough and enquiries that have recently been received about residents' parking schemes, the creation of new car parks and parking outside particular schools. The group will consider all options, and suggest a proposed course of action to be presented to the appropriate Services Committee.

Scope

This group will discuss and advise on the following matters :

1. Location of public car parks in the town and villages
2. Approved surface types
3. Maintenance of car parks
4. The number of parking spaces required
5. Identification of any surplus car parks
6. Charging for parking
7. Parking provision on housing estates
8. On-street parking provision
9. Residents' parking schemes
10. Car park orders
11. Enforcement
12. Location of private car parks for which charges are made
13. Agree what elements of the above are included in a parking strategy for the plan for the borough of Wellingborough and what should be included in a council policy.

Responsibilities

1. The group will receive information from council officers and relevant stakeholders on the current topics within the borough.
2. The group will discuss this information with members and a way forward will be proposed in a report to services committee.

Meetings

The group is a task and finish group and will meet as necessary over a period of approximately 12 to 18 months until the task has been completed and a plan for the borough of Wellingborough has been finalised and submitted to the car parking strategy has been completed and adopted.