

Rother District Council

Report to	-	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date	-	10 June 2019
Report of the	-	Executive Director
Subject	-	Civil Parking Enforcement: Presentation by East Sussex County Council

Recommendation: It be **RESOLVED:** That the presentation by East Sussex County Council be noted.

Introduction

1. This report introduces the presentation by East Sussex County Council (ESCC) on the outcome of the recent consultation exercise into the Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) proposals for the district, by giving Members information as to how the Council has arrived at this point.

Background

2. Control of parking on-street is a statutory power conferred by legislation and intended to assist in delivering safe and efficient traffic management.
3. CPE is governed by Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act, 2004. Rother District Council (RDC) is not an enforcement authority under this Act, but can make a request through ESCC to introduce CPE if convinced of the business case. There are a number of major hurdles to pass in the application process. The most recent operational guidance on CPE is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/civil-enforcement-of-parking-contraventions>
4. Enforcement under the 2004 Act is intended to support:
 - a) managing the transport network to keep traffic flowing;
 - b) improving road safety;
 - c) improving the local environment;
 - d) improving the quality and accessibility of public transport;
 - e) meeting the needs of people with disabilities; and
 - f) managing and reconciling the demands for kerb space.

Discussion

5. Following a presentation by ESCC to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) in November 2015, it was agreed to add a review of on-street parking on to the work programme (Minute OSC15/30 refers).
6. A Civil Parking Enforcement Task and Finish Group (CPET&FG) was established to:
 - a) Review the ESCC business case for CPE.
 - b) Review the options and key requirements and costs of each option

- available for CPE.
- c) Assess the impact of CPE and charging structure on RDC's off-street parking regime (with consideration of including off-street parking in the CPE order).
 - d) Gauge the appetite of local residents and businesses for CPE.
 - e) Consider associated highway schemes that ESCC or others will be looking to deliver in the future.
 - f) To consider the provision of electric vehicle charging points across the district.
7. The CPET&FG met on five occasions between September 2017 and February 2018 and received presentations and representations from a number of sources. The minutes of the meetings can be found at:
<http://www.rother.gov.uk/article/12915/Civil-Parking-Enforcement-Task-and-Finish-Group>.
8. The final report from the CPET&FG was agreed by OSC at its meeting on 19 March 2018 (Minute OSC17/51 refers), with the following recommendations being agreed by Cabinet on 9 April 2018 (Minute CB17/86 refers) and by full Council on 21 May 2018 (Minute C18/13 refers):
- a) Rother District Council write to East Sussex County Council to support an application to be submitted to the Department for Transport for Civil Parking Enforcement to be adopted;
 - b) Subject to CPE being adopted East Sussex County Council be requested to establish a parking board for Rother District Council to monitor the day to day running of the scheme;
 - c) the current charging structure and tariffs in Rother District Council's off-street car parks remain unchanged until the Civil Parking Enforcement decision is taken;
 - d) the Council's off-street parking provision remain under the current management framework of The District of Rother Parking Places Order 1983;
 - e) when the Council's Planning Core Strategy is reviewed, Electric Vehicle Charging Points be considered in planning policy, and subject to government advice received, as well as technological and industry advances;
 - f) the indicative timetable for Civil Parking Enforcement be noted;
 - g) future East Sussex County Council consultation on the detail of the Traffic Regulation Orders changes, includes liaison with the affected Ward Members to obtain the Council's comments for their areas;
 - h) the Civil Parking Enforcement Task and Finish Group be reconvened six months after Civil Parking Enforcement was adopted to consider the impact of the Civil Parking Enforcement Scheme in preparation for the first annual review;
 - i) during the first annual review, the Car Parking Review Working Group be reconvened to consider assessment of the impact of Civil Parking Enforcement on the usage and charging structure of the Council's off-street parking operation; and
 - j) Rother District Council notify Sussex Police of the recommendation to Cabinet and full Council that the Council support East Sussex County Council making an application for Civil Parking Enforcement and that in the interim the Police continue to carry out enforcement of illegal and dangerous parking.

Conclusion

9. The implementation and enforcement of CPE is a matter for ESCC but they have adopted a very collaborative approach with this Council to the development of the proposed scheme across the district.
10. The purpose of the presentation to this meeting is to provide Rother DC Members with feedback on the consultation carried out earlier this year and any amendments to the proposed scheme arising from that consultation.

Malcolm Johnston
Executive Director

Risk Assessment Statement

The introduction of CPE may meet with varying responses from residents and businesses. Some may approach it as introducing better managed enforcement. Others may object as it may disrupt current parking habits. The CPET&FG considered carefully ESCC's charging proposals and felt they would not be harmful to the economy.