

Letter to ESCC CPE

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Civil Parking Enforcement Review**

I write to you as the Head of Service Neighbourhood Services for Rother District Council (RDC) and as lead officer for RDC Off-Street Car Parks Task and Finish Group (OSCP T&FG). The OSCP T&FG was established in October 2020 to review the impact of the introduction of Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) on council owned car parks across the district, and to inform the East Sussex County Council (ESCC) CPE annual review on general issues that have been raised directly to the group by stakeholders regarding on-street parking.

Since its inception, the OSCP T&FG has met on more than eight occasions throughout the last twelve months to consider car park data, including levels of revenue, visitor numbers, and most popular hours of use. In addition, two 'calls for evidence' have been completed, inviting town and parish councils, local businesses, community groups and sports clubs to comment on if and how off-street car parking used by their community, stakeholders and staff may have been impacted by the introduction of on-street CPE.

RDC is aware that ESCC invited RDC residents and stakeholders to submit their own comments and requests for changes to the existing CPE restrictions, and we understand ESCC is in the process of reviewing nearly one thousand comments to establish commonalities of requests and determine future changes to on-street parking.

RDC would like to add their observations on a formal basis for consideration during the above review as follows:

- Overall, CPE has been well received in the town centres and feedback from the Police is positive.
- It was noted that reduced levels of town centre congestion and parking issues are evident anecdotally, with improved availability of short-term parking on central urban streets due to restricted waiting times.
- On-street tariffs are felt to be fair and reasonable.
- Consideration be given to increasing the number of enforcement officers on peak visitor days, particularly in Camber.
- Hours of enforcement be flexible to cover special events later into the evenings.
- Seasonal enforcement be considered for Herbrand Walk Bexhill, Camber and Military Road Rye.
- Streets with time-limited bays were inefficient and costly to enforce, as officers must note time of parking and return to monitor. Therefore,

consideration be given to extending the number of resident permit bays and decreasing number of time limited bays.

- Consideration be given to resolving inappropriate and displacement parking both within and outside the restricted zones in particular Brockley Road; Wickham Avenue, Millfield Rise, Belle Hill, Amherst Road, Cantelupe Road and Woodville Road, Bexhill; Military Road, Rye.
- Make 'time limited' free parking bays all two hours across the district.
- Consideration be given to roads surrounding Egerton Park, Bexhill being given restricted parking, and a coach drop-off point and disabled parking near to the drop kerb area outside Bexhill museum.
- Ticehurst Village and Hurst Green be considered for future extension to the CPE scheme.
- Enforcement of inappropriate parking on 'yellow lines' be increased in villages, in particular Etchingham and Burwash where commuter parking at railway stations causes frequent congestion.

RDC look forward to receiving the details of the ESCC review in due course and I trust our comments above will add weight to the requested changes to CPE that the Council feels will further improve the success of the scheme.

Regards,

Deborah Kenneally  
Head of Services Neighbourhood Services