

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 June 2019
Subject:	Parking Strategy Review
Report of:	Head of Development Services Head of Finance & Asset Management
Corporate Lead:	Deputy Chief Executive
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Economic Development/Promotion
Number of Appendices:	1

Executive Summary:

The Council needs to commence a review of its current car parking strategy to ensure the strategy is fit for purpose in the coming years. The strategy needs to encompass not only specific car park related issues but also consider the wider regeneration and economic development requirements in our urban centres and the wider Borough. The strategy will need to recognise the changing patterns and habits of users of urban centres and car parks, potential changes to Tewkesbury Town Centre and reflect on the potential impact of new technology.

To support the review process and provide objective and strategic challenge, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider setting up a Working Group. Parking is of strategic importance and impacts upon the whole of the borough, and consequently the Working Group should be representative of the whole borough.

Recommendation:

To establish a Parking Strategy Working Group in accordance with the Terms of Reference at Appendix A.

Reasons for Recommendation:

Member and stakeholder involvement in the process is critical to a successful review of the strategy and delivery and implementation of a new strategy. A role of Overview and Scrutiny is to conduct research into the analysis of policy issues and possible options.

Resource Implications:

None directly associated with this report

Legal Implications:

None directly associated with this report

Risk Management Implications:

Failure to involve Members and stakeholders in this key review could lead to an unacceptable car parking strategy which would not be supported by the community.

Performance Management Follow-up:

The working group will be called by the project sponsor and will operate in line with the terms of reference, concluding its work within the desired timescale.

Environmental Implications:

None directly associated with this report

1.0 INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

1.1 The current car parking strategy was adopted in March 2015 and has been successful in increasing dwell time of visitors as well as seeing a general increase in parking tickets purchased.

1.2 An effective scheme is of vital importance to our communities as it effects the social and economic wellbeing of places. Whilst the current scheme is working well, it is now five years since it was last reviewed and, with Tewkesbury in particular facing potential changes through the regeneration of the Spring Gardens area, it is now appropriate for a review and to set in place a strategy that will support our communities and our ambitions.

1.3 The parking strategy falls under the remit of the Lead Member for Economic Development/Promotion. It is considered appropriate that the Member involvement is extended to include a review Working Group. The Terms of Reference for the Overview and Scrutiny Committee include:

- Review and Scrutinise Council policy.
- Assist Council and Executive Committee in policy formulation and review.

It is therefore suggested that Members of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee are best placed to support the Lead Member and the review overall. In addition, because of the link to the assets and finance of the Council, the Lead member for Finance and Asset Management will also be part of the review working group.

1.4 Initial meetings of the officer review group have taken place in May in order to scope the review and set down an indicative timetable.

2.0 PURPOSE OF THE REVIEW

2.1 The proposed Terms of Reference for the review are found at Appendix A.

2.2 The application of the parking scheme has local, statutory and borough-wide implications, and therefore is of strategic importance to this Council. Overview and Scrutiny can assist the review through objective challenge. It is therefore important that representatives on the review are representative of the borough and support the delivery of an outcome that provides a clear, consistent and legal framework.

- 2.3** The demands of the review require informality and flexibility in approach, and it is therefore recommended that the Overview and Scrutiny Committee forms a small working Group of five members to work with the Lead Members and the Heads of Development Services and Finance and Asset Management.
- 2.4** The draft report of the Working Group will be presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committee in October with a final report being presented in December before going on to Executive Committee for approval in the new year. The new parking strategy and associated parking order will come into effect in April 2020.
- 3.0 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**
- 3.1** None
- 4.0 CONSULTATION**
- 4.1** As part of the review exercise, full consultation will be held with all stakeholders.
- 5.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES**
- 5.1** Parking Strategy; Economic Development and Tourism Strategy.
- 6.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES**
- 6.1** Traffic Management Act 2004
- 7.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)**
- 7.1** An officer working group has been set up comprising of officers from Development Services and Finance and Asset Management. The scrutiny review will be further supported by officers of the Corporate Team.
- 8.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)**
- 8.1** A successful parking strategy can have a major direct impact on the social and economic requirements of our communities.
- 9.0 IMPACT UPON (Value For Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health And Safety)**
- 9.1** None

10.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

10.1 None

Background Papers: None

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Appendices: Appendix A –Parking Strategy Review Terms of Reference