

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Agenda Item**

**Date:** 27 March 2014

**15**

**Title:** Scrutiny car parking report

**Portfolio Holder:** Cllr Barker

Key decision: **No**

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## Summary

1. The Council's Scrutiny Committee carried out a review of car parking across the District. A report was submitted to the October 2013 meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.
2. The report makes a number of recommendations and suggestions.

## Recommendations

3. To note the Scrutiny report on car parking, to consider the recommendations.
4. Agree the scope of officers work and request a report with recommendations – paragraph 14.

## Financial Implications

5. Depending on the course of action taken some of the recommended changes would result in a decrease in the income from the car parks.
6. The 2014/15 budget includes an allowance of £80,000 for a review of car parking capacity within the district centres.

## Background Papers

7. None

## Impact

- 8.

Communication/Consultation	The Scrutiny Committee carried out consultation with local residents and businesses as part of its work.
Community Safety	No impact.
Equalities	The requirement will affect all equally.
Health and Safety	No impact.

Human Rights/Legal Implications	No impact.
Sustainability	No impact.
Ward-specific impacts	Affects all wards
Workforce/Workplace	Limited officer resource is available

## Situation

9. The Council's Scrutiny Committee carried out a review of car parking across the District. This review included public consultation with residents and businesses as well as analysing data on car park usage and income levels.
10. A report was submitted to the October 2013 meeting of the Scrutiny Committee. This report is attached as Appendix 1 to this report and contains a number of recommendations and suggestions.
11. Cabinet will also be aware that when it adopted revised parking charges it requested that a review of these be carried out during 2014/15. In addition a total of £80,000 has been allocated within the budget to carry out a car parking capacity within the district centres. As such it is proposed that officers consider the Scrutiny Committee report alongside the review of car parking provision and charges and bring back a substantive report in due course.
12. Officers have already considered whether there are any recommendations which could be implemented quickly as part of normal management action. As a result the following has occurred:
  - Facilitated shoppers parking rebate in Great Dunmow (part of recommendation ii) and will work with Stansted Business if this is requested.
  - Additional signage directing visitors to the car parks has been erected/ordered (recommendation vii)
  - Reviewed with NEPP the reliability of the data (recommendation viii)
  - Implemented pay by phone (recommendation x) (NOTE: This was already in hand following a Cabinet Decision).
  - Additional promotion of the airport parking hotline has occurred (recommendation xiii)
13. The largest area of work not yet considered relates to the charges and layout of the car parks. It is recommended that this be considered by officers and a report prepared for a future meeting.
14. The report will cover the following issues:
  - Review and consideration of Scrutiny Committee report;

- Review of parking charges, to include a statement regarding the Council rational of charging;
- Review of current capacity of car parks and whether they meet demand;
- Appraisal of existing car parks as to whether additional spaces can be provided if needed;
- Appraisal of other Council owned land to consider whether additional car parking provision can be provided if needed;
- Appraisal of non-Council owned land to consider whether additional car parking provision can be provided if needed; and
- Clear recommendations and conclusions.

## Conclusion

15. Officers have given initial consideration to the Scrutiny Report and recommend that further consideration be given and that a report be brought back to Cabinet in due course.

## Risk Analysis

16.

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
That there is insufficient officer time to produce the report.	1 – The review of parking charges has been programmed into this financial year. By linking the two reports their delivery is possible.	1 – Some delay in the production of the report.	Carefully consider priority of the work.

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.