

Committee: Scrutiny

Agenda Item

Date: 26 September 2017

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Title: Pavement Parking

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Item for decision:
no

Summary

1. The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee has requested the issue of pavement parking be brought to the attention of the committee. A senior officer from Essex Police will attend the meeting.

Recommendations

2. None

Financial Implications

3. None

Background Papers

4. The following papers were referred to by the author in the preparation of this report and are available for inspection from the author of the report.

None

Impact

- 5.

Communication/Consultation	None
Community Safety	There are potential safety issues regarding pavement parking
Equalities	None
Health and Safety	There are potential safety issues regarding pavement parking
Human Rights/Legal Implications	Members wishing to brief themselves on the law surrounding this issue should refer to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Sustainability	None

Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	None

Situation

6. The Chairman of the Scrutiny Committee requested the issue of pavement parking be brought to the committee.
7. Officers suggested that it might be beneficial for a police officer to attend a committee meeting in order to explain the law surrounding this issue and answer any questions members may have.
8. Acting Inspector Tim Scott of the Community Policing Team (Braintree and Uttlesford Districts) has kindly agreed to attend.
9. The North Essex Parking Partnership's position is that they can enforce vehicles parked on the pavement when adjacent to a restriction such as a single or double yellow line. If there is no restriction visible then NEPP cannot enforce. If they are causing an obstruction however, this is a police matter.
10. In email correspondence between NEPP and the Chairman of Scrutiny, it was also stated that if a vehicle is parked across a dropped footway, blocking access, then this can be enforced by NEPP, if at a public crossing point such as those often found at the junction of a road. A private dropped footway such as one providing access to a house can be enforced at the request of the resident. In the case of a shared access dropped footway, this can only be enforced by NEPP at the request of all parties that share the access.
11. The Chairman of Scrutiny has requested members' attention is drawn to an article published in the Herts and Essex Observer last month about an operation in Bishop's Stortford and Hertford to fine drivers who park on pavements.
12. The article can be read here:
<http://www.hertfordshiremercury.co.uk/east-hertfordshire-police-use-wheelchair-as-part-of-operation-pram-crack-down-on-bad-parking/story-30487630-detail/story.html>
13. In Uttlesford, consideration is being given to a similar operation through the council's Communities Team as part of a wider Pride in Place initiative which would also involve other departments and issues such as littering and flytipping.