

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Citywide Parking Review</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>23 January 2012</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Strategic Director, Place</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Owen Mcelroy</b>	<b>Tel: 293693</b>
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<b>Ward(s) affected:</b>	<b>All</b>		

**1. PROGRESS TO DATE.**

- 1.1 Consultation letters sent to over a 100 community groups including all 40 Local Action Teams and Tenants' Associations.
- 1.2 External stakeholders contacted include; emergency services, transport user groups, business organisations and disability groups. Invites have been sent to partnership meetings such as the Strategic Transport Partnership.
- 1.3 Internal stakeholders contacted, key officers and Trade Unions.
- 1.4 All 54 ward members contacted.
- 1.5 Project Board set up and project brief approved

**2. RELATED ACTIVITIES:**

- 2.1 Preston Park ECMM report 8<sup>th</sup> December - summarises current parking problems, the proposals to control the parking, the outcome of consultation and recommends measures to control the parking.
- 2.2 Parking Tariff review report to Cabinet 9 February 2012, consideration of objections and representations.
- 2.3 Parking Contract renewal – notice placed in journal of European Union on 10<sup>th</sup> January, sets out pre qualification criteria
- 2.4 Current parking review timetable – informal consultation in progress on Richmond Heights (Area C extension) and Canning Street (Area H extension), closes 31<sup>st</sup> January

**3. RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION TO DATE: REQUESTS FOR RESIDENTS PARKING SCHEMES**

- 3.1 Feedback from resident groups so far is that there are parking demand and capacity issues together with a local desire for extensions to controlled parking in Blaker's Park (Preston ward) and in parts of West Hove such as Wish Park and Worcester Villas (Wish Ward).

3.2 Residents in Baker's Bottom (QP Ward) are split between either not wanting resident parking or wishing to be joined to the adjacent Area U light touch scheme.

3.3 Although some parking problems are acknowledged residents in the area north-west of Fiveways and of Bevendean and Hollingdean generally do not want resident parking schemes

#### **4. OTHER ISSUES ARISING FROM CONSULTATION TO DATE AND OFFICER RESPONSE**

4.1 Illegal and anti social parking e.g. parking on double yellow lines or obstructive parking and parking around schools. Need for greater enforcement. Response – outside of the CPZs the council operates targeted mobile enforcement and employs reactive enforcement. There is an agreed rota of schools visited each week and officers focus on complaints and regularly change the rota to ensure that all schools are visited. Five minutes observation time must be given on double yellow lines. Penalty charges can only be issued where there is are traffic restrictions and a permitted contravention code.

4.2 Preston Park and Preston Park Avenue. There should be one hour free parking in the park and charges should be reduced in Preston Park Avenue. Response – One hour free parking would result in the scheme being financially unviable. Surplus revenue is reinvested in the Park. Charges in Preston Park Avenue would have to be considered in the context of the overall review

4.3 Provide more car club spaces but remove unused spaces. Response – the council seeks to encourage car club spaces as part of the city's transport strategy of providing options for sustainable transport. Unused spaces can be advertised for removal following consultation.

4.4 Residents generally favourable to the option of cashless/mobile phone parking. Response – under consideration as part of contract renewal

4.5 Issues reported in respect of parking on grass verges and pavements. There have been very mixed responses to this within communities including concerns about displacement if restrictions are imposed. Response - the council recognises that parking on pavements and verges can create a significant obstruction to road users and can cause damage to basement areas therefore it cannot condone parking on pavements. The council has powers to restrict verge and pavement parking in streets or areas but their use would be subject to consultation, resourcing and displacement factors.

4.6 Concerns have been expressed about traffic speeds and there have been request for calming measures. Response – passed to Road Safety Manager as appropriate

#### **5. ISSUES RAISED BY SCRUTINY WORKSHOP 6 DECEMBER 2011- OFFICER RESPONSE:**

- 5.1 Encouraging motorcycle use by providing extra motorcycle spaces and allowing motorcycles to use bus lanes. Response – It is recognised that there is a lack of motorcycle parking in City Centre areas and it is intended to address this, subject to consultation in future revisions to schemes. In new parking schemes at least one bay should be provide per street where site conditions allow. The council is undertaking a study of the implications of allowing motorcycles in Bus Lanes following the petition of the Motorcycle Action Group
- 5.2 Introducing parking charge holidays. Response – The evidence from other local authorities is that this reduces income but does not increase visitor volumes. It is also in conflict with the promotion of sustainable transport.
- 5.3 Allowing a trading system for permits. Response – there are legal objections to this as only a council can set charges for permits
- 5.4 Graduated parking fees according to vehicle dimensions. Response – this is legally possible but could lead to enforcement problems.
- 5.5 Encouraging cycling with secure spaces for bicycles. Response – additional ‘on street’ bicycle spaces are being installed this financial year, the council is looking at Lambeth’s councils provision of bike boxes for lessons learned
- 5.6 Transferability of P&D tickets across the City within the same tariff band. Response – there is no provision within traffic orders to prevent this and no contravention code available to issue a PCN. It is not felt that in practice this would result in a significant increase in internal commuting or loss of revenue to the council.
- 5.7 Further consultation and research is required in respect of paragraph m sub paragraphs a, d, e h, l and k.
- 5.8 Scrutiny’s guidance on the scope of the review set out in paragraph o is agreed and will be incorporated as appropriate.
- 5.9 It is proposed that the strategic objectives of parking policy align with the Brighton and Hove City Council’s Corporate Plan. This describes how the council will help to deliver the vision of the city’s Sustainable Community Strategy priorities of; living within environmental limits, and enhancing the environment and providing sustainable transport.
- 5.10 Specific commitments for 2011/12 include “offering greater choice in how people move around the city... supporting a fairer balance between road users” and “reviewing the effectiveness and impact of current parking schemes on the city for residents businesses and visitors.
- 5.11 In addition Parking Policy Objectives have been set out in the council’s Parking Annual Report 2011 which are to:
- Reduce congestion and keep traffic moving
  - Provide access safely to those who need it most
  - Deliver excellent customer service

- 5.12 Available data on vehicle ownership and travel patterns from Census and Personal travel plans is appended to the report and was commented on in the minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> December Scrutiny Workshop. Generally there is a concern that the data is 10 and 6 years out of date respectively and it would be unsafe to draw conclusions from it.
- 5.13 Notes of the 6 December 2012 ECSOSC workshop are included in this report at Appendix D.

## **6. FUTURE MEDIUM TERM TIMETABLE**

- 6.1 The review is still in an early stage and additional research and consultation is required particularly in respect of best practice in other local authorities and elsewhere.
- 6.2 There is a commitment from officers to visit community groups in Hollingbury, Queen's Park, West Hove, Rottingdean, London Road, Lewes Road and Tarnar
- 6.3 It is proposed to give an interim report to the Cabinet Member for Environment in the Spring.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

- Appendix A Census 2001 Vehicle ownership by ward
- Appendix B Census data vehicle ownership
- Appendix C Personalised travel plan data report
- Appendix D Notes of 6 Dec ECSOSC Informal Workshop; Citywide Parking Review

### **Background Documents**

1. Sustainable Community Strategy
2. Corporate Plan 2011-15
3. Parking Annual Report 2011