

**CAR PARKING STRATEGY – DRAFT ACTION PLAN
(Report by the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support))**

1. INTRODUCTION

At its meeting held on 15th January 2008, the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) considered a report by the Head of Planning Services regarding the development of a Car Parking Strategy and Action Plan.

- 1.2 The conclusions of the Car Parking Working Group had been presented to the Scrutiny Panel in October 2007 when the Panel made a number of recommendations on the content of their report. Cabinet asked the Working Group to investigate further the recommendations of the Panel and also additional ideas put forward by Cabinet itself.
- 1.3 Following consideration of the issues raised the Working Group's further report was considered by the Panel at their January meeting.

2. VIEWS OF THE PANEL

- 2.1 The Panel were appreciative of the additional work undertaken by the Car Parking Working Group but still had reservations about some aspects of their recommendations. In order not to delay the matter any further, the Panel decided to raise no objections to the report but to invite the Cabinet to take into account the following issues when considering the Working Group's recommendations.

- The Panel was disappointed that the Working Group decided not to change their proposal that there should be a 25% reduction in the cost of a car parking season ticket for cars with CO₂ emissions of 120g/km or less. The Panel felt that this did not provide sufficient incentive to encourage motorists to purchase low emission vehicles and that the percentage reduction should be greater.
- The Panel remains of the view that any surplus income generated by increased car parking charges should be ring-fenced to provide integrated, sustainable and accessible transport.
- The Panel was concerned that few of the recommendations previously made by both itself and the Cabinet were accepted by the Working Group and consider that a further review of car parking should be commissioned by Cabinet as soon as possible after the new charges have been implemented in the forthcoming summer, with particular emphasis on actions to encourage environmentally sensitive forms of car use.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Cabinet is requested to take into consideration the views of the Overview and Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) as set out above.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Minutes of the meetings of the Overview & Scrutiny Panel (Service Support) held on 9th October 2007 and 15th January 2008

Car Parking Strategy: Draft Action Plan – Report by the Head of Planning Services

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