

REPORT TO COMMUNITIES PDG

REPORT OF: Business Manager - Spatial and Economic Growth

REPORT NO: SEG35

DATE: 27 January 2017

TITLE:	Car Parking Strategy Review	
KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:	Policy framework proposal	
EXECUTIVE MEMBER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:	Councillor Bob Adams Executive Member Growth	
CONTACT OFFICER:	Roger Ranson Business Manager – Spatial and Economic Growth r.ranson@southkesteven.gov.uk ext 6438	
INITIAL IMPACT ANALYSIS: Equality and Diversity	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below	Full impact assessment Required: TBC
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:	This report is publicly available via the Your Council and Democracy link on the Council's website: www.southkesteven.gov.uk	
BACKGROUND PAPERS	SKDC's Car Parking Strategy 2012-17 Working Group Discussion Papers	

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

1.1 Communities PDG are asked to consider the revised draft South Kesteven Car Parking Strategy before a final draft version is presented to Executive for approval at their meeting on 6th February 2017.

2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

2.1 To present Communities PDG with a draft updated car parking strategy for their consideration following a thorough joint officer and Member Working Group review of the existing management and provision of publically available parking in South Kesteven.

3. DETAILS OF REPORT

3.1 The objective of this review has been to undertake an assessment of the current management and provision of publically available parking within South Kesteven. This was considered necessary in order that the Council's approach can be readily adapted in order to meet current and anticipated future demands.

3.2 A Joint Member car park working group was established in order to take forward this review and the Working Group was supported by relevant officers from Spatial & Economic Growth and Venues & Facilities Management.

3.3 At the outset of this process the scope for the review was agreed with the working group as follows:

- To review and appropriately update the South Kesteven Car Park Strategy 2012 – 2017;
- Specifically:
 - Does the existing strategy still align with the current and emerging Council corporate priorities?
 - Is the strategy still in-line with current local and national policy?
 - To review the current management regime for Council owned car parks including: enforcement, quality, safety, charging, operating times and payment methods?
- How can the council best utilise its car parking assets (in respect of both current and potential future provision) in order to support and stimulate our local economies?
- Should strategy be entirely consistent across the district or applied differentially dependent upon applicable local circumstances?

3.4 It was also agreed to consider the wider local 'parking picture', but it was acknowledged this Council has no direct control over:

- The provision, management and charging for privately owned car parks;

- The provision management and charging for car parks owned by other public bodies e.g. schools, colleges and hospitals;
- The availability and regime for privately owned and operated car parking spaces;
- The management and enforcement of on-street car parking.

3.5 There have been five 'themed' working group sessions that have appropriately considered the following topics:

- A review of current best practice, an appreciation of the SKDC strategy and its relationship to national policy.
- Charging mechanisms including current provision, alternative payment methods and local comparison charging.
- Operational regimes with regard to enforcement, quality and safety, operating times and parking for disabled users.
- Potential asset and development options for car parks across the district.
- Consideration of draft strategy.

3.6 Following discussions at these themed sessions and the arising recommendations an updated draft car parking strategy has been produced for consideration.

3.7 The revised draft strategy provides a succinct overview with regard to all of these issues and looks to establish an appropriately flexible local policy framework so that the Council can readily look to react and adapt to changing demands and local circumstances.

4. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The review looks to take forward the operation of our car parks within current budgets - but it also seeks to anticipate situations whereby we may want in the future to consider other asset management options.

5. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Public safety within car parks is a very important issue and this review looks to address that specific issue.

6. COMMENTS OF FINANCIAL SERVICES

6.1 There are no specific recommendations arising from the report with respect to charging or any investment into the car parking service. Should any changes be considered then these will require a thorough financial appraisal before incorporation into the medium term financial planning.

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

7.1 If any amendments to the Council's current Civil Enforcement Off Street Parking Order are required as a consequence of the Car Parking Strategy Review, or for any other reason, the Council must act in accordance with the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and carry out all necessary statutory consultation.

8. COMMENTS OF OTHER RELEVANT SERVICES

8.1 This updated strategy will allow the Council to appropriately support its spatial and economic growth aspirations whilst also allowing for the continued effective operation of our car parks.

9. APPENDICES:

9.1 Draft South Kesteven Car Parking Strategy