

Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure	Ref No:
June 2020	Key Decision:
West Sussex Integrated Parking Strategy Review 2020 - 2025	Part I
Report by Executive Director Place Services and Director of Highways, Transport and Planning	Electoral Division(s): All
<p>Summary</p> <p>As the Highway Authority for West Sussex, the County Council has an Integrated Parking Strategy that sets out its approach to managing parking. This mainly includes the management and enforcement of on-street parking controls and regulations but it also sets out the County Council's view and role in off-street parking provision, primarily provided by District and Borough Councils, as well as how its approach to parking management relates to other policies and strategies.</p> <p>The Integrated Parking Strategy was last updated in 2014 and this latest review, covering the period from 2020 to 2025, seeks to ensure that the County Council's approach to managing parking remains appropriate and effective at meeting the needs of local communities as well as its other objectives.</p>	
<p>West Sussex Plan: Policy Impact and Context</p> <p>The Integrated Parking Strategy supports the corporate priorities by recognising that communities in West Sussex are very diverse both in terms of demography and geography. It seeks to provide flexible solutions to meet local objectives by understanding and balancing the differing needs of the many stakeholders. It also provides a unified framework and rationale for applying parking policies and practices to communities in a fair and consistent way.</p>	
<p>Financial Impact</p> <p>The Integrated Parking Strategy review 2020-2025 does not have any direct or immediate revenue or capital implications.</p>	
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>That the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Approves the draft Integrated Parking Strategy, set out in Appendix A of this report, as a statement of the County Council's commitment to the future of parking management in support of its other policies and strategies ; and 2. Notes that the implementation of any of the proposed actions may be subject to further decision making in accordance with the County Council's established processes. 	

Proposal

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 As the Highway Authority for West Sussex, the County Council has an Integrated Parking Strategy (IPS) that sets out its approach to managing parking. This mainly includes the management and enforcement of on-street parking controls and regulations but it also sets out the County Council's view and role in off-street parking provision, primarily provided by district and borough Councils, as well as how its approach to parking management relates to other policies and strategies.
- 1.2 The [IPS was last updated in 2014](#) and this latest review, covering the period from 2020 to 2025, seeks to ensure that the County Council's approach to managing parking remains appropriate and effective at meeting the needs of local communities as well as its other objectives.
- 1.3 The aim of the IPS review is to ensure that the supply, regulation, enforcement and cost of all types of parking in West Sussex continues to be managed and controlled in ways which are consistent with the County Council's other transport, economic and environmental policies.
- 1.4 Policies to manage the demand for car use through the control of on-street parking need to be integrated with and supportive of measures to tackle congestion and pollution, promote alternative modes of transport, enhance the economic viability and vitality of town centres and improve road safety and residential amenity.
- 1.5 As a strategic document the IPS will not set out each and every decision or action that will affect car parking in West Sussex but rather set out the basis on which the County Council will make future decisions and what these should achieve.

2. Proposal Details

- 2.1 The specific objectives of the IPS review 2020-2025 are to:
 - Collate and review the national/local policies and guidance that influence the County Council's approach to parking management in West Sussex. These are outlined in Section 2 of the draft IPS in Appendix A.
 - Set out a number of the County Council's parking management policies for the period 2020 - 2025. These are outlined (in detail) in Section 3 of the draft IPS in Appendix A.
- 2.2 The County Council's proposed parking management policies for the period 2020-2025 are summarised as follows:
 1. The County Council, together with the district and borough Councils, will take all reasonable steps to provide a cost-effective and efficient parking service.
 2. Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE) will be quality based and information readily available to help road users understand that enforcement is as fair, accurate and expeditious as possible.

3. Parking signing and lining defects will be corrected as soon as possible after being reported.
4. Parking management in town centres and around other attractors will seek to balance the needs of the various competing user groups and maintain the economic viability of those areas.
5. Management of all on-street parking spaces should complement other transport and planning policies to discourage car use in congested urban areas
6. Parking charges will be levied for traffic management purposes - to maximise capacity by stimulating turnover, encourage the use of off-street car parks and to act as a demand management tool.
7. Parking charges will be reviewed regularly and set at an appropriate level to cover operating costs and influence parking demands, consistent with traffic management and environmental objectives.
8. Controlled Parking Zones (CPZs) will be periodically reviewed to ensure that they are achieving the desired effect and responding adequately to any changes in parking activity that may have arisen since the last time they were reviewed.
9. Road Space Audits (RSAs) will be made available as the primary approach to parking management across West Sussex.
10. Verge and footway parking Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) may be implemented to prevent or prohibit parking that causes damage to the verge and/or footway or that causes an obstruction to other road users.
11. The County Council will promote improved access for Blue Badge holders through the provision of designated on-street spaces and by working with the owners of off-street car parks to ensure that well designed spaces are provided
12. The County Council will give consideration to moving traffic enforcement as well as to widening its parking enforcement powers in order to improve compliance, improve road safety, reduce public transport journey times and reduce congestion.
13. The County Council will embrace technological innovations which help customers to better access services and aid the efficiency of parking operations.
14. The County Council and the district/borough Councils will be open and transparent about how the CPE Service works and how decisions are made. As part of this commitment, Annual Parking Reports will be published.
15. As a member of the British Parking Association (BPA), the County Council will continue to add its voice to those of other local authorities when lobbying Government or responding to government consultations on parking issues.

Factors taken into account

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The six district and borough Councils operate CPE and manage CPZs, under Agency Agreements, on behalf of the County Council. Officers from all of these authorities meet regularly to monitor the management of on-street parking and to discuss any short/long term issues.
- 3.2 The IPS does not identify all of the individual measures that the County Council intends to undertake but establishes the framework within which future parking management will be developed and reviewed. Most measures, such as development of parking plans, will be the subject of wide ranging public consultation and County Local Committee (CLC) consideration before a decision is made by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure.
- 3.3 Officer comments received on the draft IPS have been collated and will be considered. Any outcomes will be shared with the Cabinet Member.

4. Financial (revenue and capital) and Resource Implications

- 4.1 The IPS review 2020-2025 does not have any direct or immediate revenue or capital implications.
- 4.2 The majority of costs and expenses associated with introducing, managing and maintaining on-street parking for the period 2020-2025, as outlined in the IPS, will be drawn from the County Council's On-Street Parking Account.
- 4.3 On-street parking charges, which include pay & display and permit charges as well as revenue from Civil Parking Enforcement (Penalty Charge Notices) all accrue to the On-Street Parking account. The account is managed in accordance with the requirements of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which sets out the purposes for which the County Council may levy on-street parking charges and how revenue, and any surplus, may be spent.
- 4.4 As a Highway Authority, the County Council's responsibilities are strategic as well as local and they extend across the entire county. As such, it manages a single On-Street Parking account and invests strategically across the county, irrespective of where revenue may have originated.
- 4.5 Some future measures arising from the IPS may incur capital costs and therefore would be met from the following sources - Section 106 funds, Community Infrastructure Levy, Local Enterprise Partnership Growth Programme Funding, Capital Funding.

5. Legal Implications

- 5.1 There are no immediate legal issues arising from the IPS review

6. Risk Implications and Mitigations

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
The management of a finite	The IPS provides the framework within

Risk	Mitigating Action (in place or planned)
<p>resource, such as parking space, requires that a balance be struck between the interests of the various user groups that compete to use that resource and any measure that balances or prioritises the interests of one group over others will, inevitably, affect those users to varying degrees of benefit or dis-benefit.</p> <p>Even within a given user group there will be many conflicting views on whether parking management has a positive or negative impact</p>	<p>which these competing and conflicting needs will be identified, assessed and prioritised.</p> <p>Decisions regarding the implementation or amendment of any individual measures will be made by the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure, in consultation with the relevant County Councillors and will be subject to the appropriate decision-making process.</p>

7. Other Options Considered (and reasons for not proposing)

- 7.1 There is clear need to ensure that a consistent and strategic approach to the management of parking is taken. The County Council faces particularly challenging financial circumstances and there is a need to ensure accountability for how investment is allocated and spent. It is therefore appropriate that the Cabinet Member for Highways and Infrastructure has close oversight of the IPS and any measures arising from it. In so doing it is recognised that local Members have a key role to play in delivering successful outcomes for our communities.

8. Equality and Human Rights Assessment

- 8.1 A comprehensive consultation and communications strategy for any specific measures that arise from the IPS will ensure that all groups have an opportunity to comment. Potential impacts in terms of the Equality Duty will be considered when decisions are made.
- 8.2 It is considered that the policies contained within the IPS will contribute to the increased safety of all road users and the wider community and that these benefits will mitigate any likely Human Rights Act Implications.

9. Social Value and Sustainability Assessment

- 9.1 There are no significant social value issues arising from the IPS review

10. Crime and Disorder Reduction Assessment

- 10.1 The County Council does not consider parking management to create any crime and disorder issues. Officers have previously consulted with Sussex Police, who share this view.

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Appendices

- A. IPS Review 2020 – 2025 (Main Document)
- B. IPS Review 2020 – 2025 Summary

Background papers