

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Cabinet Member for Environmental Services

Date of Meeting: 16 December 2010
Report of: Head of Safer and Stronger Communities
Subject/Title: Nantwich Parking Review

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1. This report proposes acceptance of the report following the recent Nantwich Parking Review.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member for Environmental Services approves the Nantwich Parking Review report and authorises officers to take steps to implement the recommendations it contains, in particular:
- 2.1.1 To amend the Off Street Parking Places Order to enable the Council to sell contract parking permits on long stay car parks in the town. This is the subject of a separate report at this meeting;
- 2.1.2 To establish the costs of improvements to Snow Hill car park and proceed to formal quotations subject to availability of funds;
- 2.1.3 To carry out a further review of car park usage and any other changes following the introduction of new tariffs, in 3 months' time;
- 2.1.4 To carry out preliminary studies of residents parking schemes where these have been requested by local residents;
- 2.1.5 Highways officers to investigate and propose changes to access to the town square.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 The recommendations in the Review report received the support of both Ward and Town councillors, as well as the Town Council Transport Group.

4.0 Wards Affected

Nantwich

5.0 Local Ward Members

Cllr Arthur Moran, Cllr Andrew Martin, Cllr Brian Dykes

6.0 Policy Implications including Climate Change and Health

- 6.1 Should the change to town centre access be made, this should contribute to improved pedestrian safety and reduce damage to surfaces leading to trip hazards.

7.0 Financial Implications

- 7.1 Should this report be approved, subsequent reports will take forward statutory processes to action the recommendations and financial implications will be detailed there in each case.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

8.1 S 122 Duty

Section 122 of the Act imposes a general duty on the local authority to have regard to certain factors when exercising its functions under the Act, including car parking order making. Section 122 states the following;

- 8.1.1 *'It shall be the duty of every local authority upon whom functions are conferred by or under this Act, so to exercise the functions conferred on them by this Act as (so far as practicable having regard to the matters specified in subsection (2) below) to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.*

- 8.1.2 The matters specified under s122(2) are as follows:

(a) the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises;

(b) the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and (without prejudice to the generality of this paragraph) the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles, so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run;

(c) the strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environment Act 1995 (national air quality strategy);

(d) the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles; and

(e) any other matters appearing to the local authority to be relevant.'

8.1.3 It is considered that the changes proposed in this report will not adversely affect the fulfilment of the Authority's duties under s122(2).

8.2 Changes which would require the alteration of the Borough of Crewe & Nantwich (General)(Off Street Parking Places)(Consolidation)(Minor) Order 2008 require the proposing and making of an amendment order. The procedure for making such an order is prescribed within the Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (of which statutory consultation and consideration of any objections is part). Any such proposals will be the subject of separate decision reports

9.0 Risk Management

9.1 N/A

10.0 Background and Options

10.1 The parking review was carried out in response to a Cabinet decision earlier this year to conduct reviews in all Cheshire East's centres. The entire report itself is available for inspection. This report sets out findings from the Review of the parking situation in the town centre in respect of both on and off street parking and control measures. The objectives of this Review were:

- To study the controls and facilities for parking in the central area of Nantwich town and
- identify changes needed to improve the provision, control and management of parking.

10.1.1 Ward Councillors submitted a range of comments to the Review. The Town Council have also supplied views at meetings held.

10.2 The options remain either not to accept the report's recommendations. However the proposal in this paper stems from the consultations in the review as shown above so already has considerable support.

11.0 Access to Information

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