

## AGENDA ITEM

### REPORT TO CABINET

1 SEPTEMBER 2016

### REPORT OF CRIME AND DISORDER SELECT COMMITTEE

## CABINET DECISION

**Access and Communities – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Nelson**  
**Regeneration and Transport - Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Cooke**

### SCRUTINY REVIEW OF SCHOOL PARKING

#### 1. Summary

The number of cars taking children to and from school has increased over the years not just in Stockton Borough but nationally and as such needs to be recognised as a problem that cannot easily be remedied locally.

The key concerns that were investigated by the Crime and Disorder Select Committee were:

- Safety of children who are trying to cross roads between parked cars.
- Residents unable to access their own homes/driveways and being verbally abused by drivers.
- Safety of drivers (and young passengers) trying to manoeuvre where there are cars parked across junctions, on bends etc.
- How Enforcement Officers and local police could deal with the problem.
- What good practice is already happening and how can this be shared.

#### 2. Recommendations

1. To develop a resource pack for all schools to assist them with delivering a range of measures within Stockton Borough to help address the issue of parking outside schools. This could include:
  - Developing a school/pupil champion as a school lead for the dissemination of: information/raising awareness / encouraging alternative/sustainable travel to and from school / a campaign involving travelling to school to help parents make informed choices;
  - Developing informal parking charters to be signed by parents.
  - Developing informal friendship stops where parent volunteers could provide a walking bus and informal arrangements for drop off;
  - Introducing an annual Award Scheme to recognise borough-wide achievements;
  - A video resource for schools to highlight the issues dealt with by Enforcement Officers
  - Promote and extend the advisory service on request to head teachers/school governors to determine measures that individual schools could take to reduce the issues and incidences of car parking at schools
  - A summary of the powers available to schools to manage traffic/parking on school grounds
2. All Councillors who are School Governors to be encouraged to promote the resource pack within their schools.

3. That articles are featured in Stockton News on school parking issues to promote parental best practice outside school premises.
4. Maximum consideration to future school planning submissions is given by Stockton Council's Planning Committee to ensure travel arrangements alleviate wherever possible parking outside schools.
5. Continue to monitor the possibility for further enforcement measures, including for example:
  - Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders
  - Public Space Protection Orders
6. If requested by individual schools Stockton Council will consider site specific improvements or changes to assist with enforcement or education of drivers to reduce the impact of school parking. This may involve additional engineering measures or a review of restrictions as examples.
7. Subject to resources, schools with particular car parking problems are supported / targeted more frequently by SBC Enforcement Service than others especially if campaigns are undertaken.
8. Stockton Council makes representation to the Government to review the legislation and regulations that relate to/impact on parking outside of schools.
9. Continue to monitor availability of funding for schemes and initiatives to reduce parking problems outside of schools.
10. Explore introducing a protocol for issuing Park Smart notices by Enforcement/Parking Officers.
11. Council Enforcement Services and Cleveland Police will continue to contribute to tackling school parking issues when identified and will be tasked accordingly within the remit of those Services.

**3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)**

The report presents the findings of the scrutiny review that took place as part of the agreed work programme for 2015-16.

**4. Members' Interests**

Members (including co-opted Members) should consider whether they have a personal interest in any item, as defined in **paragraphs 9 and 11** of the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with and/or taking account of **paragraphs 12 - 17** of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 16** of the code, in any business of the Council he/she must then, **in accordance with paragraph 18** of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business:-

- affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or

- relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member or any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a personal interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However, a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

### **Disclosable Pecuniary Interests**

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he/she has a disclosable pecuniary interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (**paragraph 22** of the code)

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SELECT COMMITTEE**

**CABINET DECISION**

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**SUMMARY**

The number of cars taking children to and from school has increased over the years not just in Stockton Borough but nationally and as such needs to be recognised as a problem that cannot easily be remedied locally.

The key concerns that were investigated by the Committee were:

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- Safety of drivers (and young passengers) trying to manoeuvre where there are cars parked across junctions, on bends etc.
- How Enforcement Officers and local police could deal with the problem.
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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

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## **DETAIL**

1. The attached report outlines the findings of the review of school parking. The review was undertaken by Crime and Disorder Select Committee.
2. Following consideration by Cabinet an action plan will be submitted to the Select Committee setting out how approved recommendations will be implemented detailing officers responsible for action and timescales.
3. A petition was submitted during the review by residents of Kintyre Drive, Bute Close, Arron Close, and Cromore Close, Thornaby who said they are experiencing a much increased problem with local congestion during the school drop-off and pick-up times and this was growing out of control. A response will be given following consideration of the scrutiny final report.

## **COMMUNITY IMPACT IMPLICATIONS**

4. The review does not propose new policies or services, but further improvements to the delivery of existing local public services.

## **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5. There are no significant financial implications. Recommendations will be met within existing budgets.

## **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6. None

## **RISK ASSESSMENT**

7. This review of school parking is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

8. This report is not subject to an Equality Impact Assessment because it is making no major change to any policy or service provision.

## **CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS**

9. The Committee met with and received evidence from Head Teachers, Chairs of Governors, and parents as set out in the final report of the Select Committee.

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Education related? No

Background Papers: None

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors: Not ward specific

Property: None