

Report to Cabinet Member Transportation

Title:	Annual Parking Report
Date:	22 October 2018
Date can be implemented:	30 October 2018
Author:	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Transportation
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Local members affected:	All
Portfolio areas affected:	Transportation

For press enquiries concerning this report, please contact the media office on 01296 382444

Summary

Buckinghamshire County Council operates a decriminalised parking enforcement scheme under auspices of the Traffic Management Act 2004. The scheme covers all on street parking in the county and all activity relating to Civil Parking Enforcement (including off-street parking).

A requirement of the scheme is for the County Council to publish an Annual Parking Report, this is attached as Appendix A. The report sets out the financial performance of the scheme as well as highlighting significant developments within the reporting year.

The Annual Parking Account shows a deficit of £494,400 relating to on-street parking. This is an improvement from the previous year and has been charged to the General Fund.

Recommendation

That Cabinet NOTE the Annual Parking Report before publication

A. Narrative setting out the reasons for the decision

The Annual Parking Report is our response to the requirements laid down within the Traffic Management Act 2004 that state that an authority will “publish information regarding parking enforcement, including an Annual Report”. The authority is therefore duty bound to publish the document.

The purpose of the Annual Parking Report is to update Members and the general public on activity within the Parking Service for the reporting period. For ease, in the past year we have successfully implemented a number of significant schemes and service improvements, they can be summarised as:

- Pay and Display
 - A new scheme has been introduced at the Cressex Business Park in High Wycombe
- New Restrictions
 - New restrictions have been introduced in Haddenham and Little Chalfont.
- Residents’ Parking
 - Changes to Resident Permits on a countywide basis
 - Introduction of further Resident Parking in Chesham
- A number of LAF funded parking schemes have been progressed
- Improvements to service
 - Evening enforcement of restrictions has been introduced
- A large portion of lining refresh work has been progressed in High Wycombe leading to better, more consistent enforcement

The document also provides statistics on the number of Penalty Charge Notices issued, the number of representations made, adjudication information and the performance of our Civil Enforcement Officers.

There is an underlying deficit in relation to on-street parking due to the cost of PCN enforcement exceeding the income generated. The majority of the income from on-street parking comes from Penalty notices (PCNs) however charges are fixed nationally limiting the ability to increase revenue; and due to the set-up of on-street parking in Buckinghamshire, enforcement is difficult and costly.

The new Parking Delivery Plan includes an action plan to reducing the Parking deficit so that Parking enforcement would be self-financing over time. The aim is to achieve this by actions such as:

- Online applications and virtual permits;
- Cashless parking
- A review of free on-street limited waiting bays on a case by case basis, commencing in the town centres and areas of greatest parking stress.
- Streamlining the TRO Process to improve delivery times
- Review of resident and other permit charges and eligibility criteria

B. Other options available, and their pros and cons

None

C. Resource implications

The On-Street Parking Account shows a deficit of £494,400 a reduction of £156,500 from 2016/17. Excluding capital works the underlying revenue deficit from operating the on-street parking account has improved by £96,500. A small deficit is also reported

from off-street enforcement activity of £6,200, which has been met from other off-street income streams.

The deficit on the On-Street Parking Account of £494,400 has been met from the General Fund.

D. Value for Money (VfM) Self-Assessment

No VfM Self-Assessment has been carried out on this outturn report. Work continues in the background to ensure that, over time the County Council is in a position to balance the Parking Account and reduce the need to call on the Council's General Reserve.

E. Legal implications

The County Council is obliged to submit an Annual Parking Report.

F. Property implications

None.

G. Other implications/issues

None.

H. Feedback from consultation, Local Area Forums and Local Member views

No feedback on the Annual Parking Report has been sought

I. Communication issues

As a statutory report the Annual Parking Report will be published on the County Council's website.

J. Progress Monitoring

No progress monitoring is required.

K. Review

There is no requirement for a review. A new Annual Parking Report will be required for the period April 2018 to March 2019

Background Papers

Appendix One: 2017/18 Annual Parking Report

Your questions and views

If you have any questions about the matters contained in this paper please get in touch with the Contact Officer whose telephone number is given at the head of the paper.

If you have any views on this paper that you would like the Cabinet Member to consider, or if you wish to object to the proposed decision, please inform the Democratic Services Team by 5.00pm on 19 October 2018. This can be done by telephone (to 01296 382343), or e-mail to democracy@buckscc.gov.uk