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<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Update on Car Parking Capacity Survey and Proposed Procurement of Design Services</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>Officer Management Team - Director of Services Prepared by - Head of Environment</b>

## 1. Purpose of Report

To update members on the survey of car parking capacity agreed for Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross and consider the procurement of any consequential design services

## 2. Links to Council Policy Objectives

- 2.1 To contribute to the Council's medium term aim of planning for a thriving and sustainable South Bucks, with vibrant towns and villages.
- 2.2 This matter also contributes to the Council's aim to deliver value for money services that are driven by customer and community needs.

## 3. Background

- 3.1 There is a need for the Council, as both landowner and planning authority, to understand the current and future car parking capacity requirements within the District, and to consider possible actions to address any potential shortfall in capacity.
- 3.2 Following the meeting of the Environment Policy Advisory Group on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2013, having considered the advice of the PAG, the Portfolio Holder agreed to recommend to Cabinet that approval be given to conduct a parking survey of Beaconsfield and Gerrards Cross at an estimated cost of £25,000. This request was approved by Cabinet on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2013. Officers believe that some funding for the survey may be available from the LEP.
- 3.3 The survey is restricted to Beaconsfield New Town and Gerrards Cross as these are the areas where there is by far the greatest demand for car parking at present and the areas where demand is likely to increase in the future. Separate proposals are currently being developed for Beaconsfield Old Town.

#### **4. Proposal/Discussion**

- 4.1 Several companies have been asked to provide quotes for carrying out the survey and reporting the findings to the Council. It is likely that a contract for the work will be agreed in early September and the survey will then be carried out in October.
- 4.2 In the meantime Chiltern District Council has agreed to procure a contractor to assist with designing additional capacity for car parks in its area and your officers will arrange for SBDC to be named as a party who may wish to call off design services if necessary.
- 4.3 To ensure that a scheme to address any shortfall in car park capacity identified by the survey in Beaconsfield or Gerrards Cross can be progressed expeditiously, officers are requesting an estimated £25,000 from general reserves to appoint architects to undertake feasibility and design services for construction of an additional deck or decks on one or more of the Council's existing car parks and seek the planners' views. This expenditure would only be committed with the agreement of the Portfolio Holders once the survey results have been considered. Further reports would be brought to a future meeting on the potential costs of any schemes and the financial implications.

#### **5. Resources, Risks and other implications**

- 5.1 The expenditure may be charged to capital if a new deck is actually built otherwise it will have to come from revenue balances.
- 5.2 If the design work is not carried out soon after the survey report is received, the Council will be at risk of failing to meet the anticipated demand for car parking space.

#### **6. Recommendation**

- 6.1 The Environment and Resources PAGs be asked to note the contents of this report.
- 6.2 The Portfolio Holder for Resources is asked to recommend to Cabinet that £25,000 be allocated from general reserves for feasibility/design services to address any shortfall in car parking identified by the survey.
- 6.3 The Portfolio Holder for Environment is asked to recommend to Cabinet that the Director of Services be authorised to procure such

feasibility and design services in consultation with the Portfolio Holder.

<b>Portfolio Holders:</b>	<b>Councillor N Naylor</b> <b>Councillor D Smith</b>
<b>Officer Contact:</b>	<b>Chris Marchant 01895 837360</b> <b>Chris.marchant@southbucks.gov.uk</b> <b>Andrew Crow 01895 837259</b> <b>andrew.crow@southbucks.gov.uk</b>
<b>Background Papers:</b>	<b>none</b>