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| COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR BARROW |
| Meeting date: 18 September 2020 |
| From: Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure |

PARKING SERVICES REPORT

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 *This report presents, as Appendix 1, the activity of the parking team for the first five months of this financial year, 2020 / 21. Much of this period was during the lockdown of the current pandemic, during which proactive enforcement was reduced and the parking officers were redeployed to assist local communities. Enforcement returned on a phased approach from June. Appendix 2 contains the Parking Annual Report for the financial year 2019 / 20 which gives a summary of parking activities during that year.*

2.0 STRATEGIC PLANNING AND EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

2.1 *Parking enforcement helps support the County Council objective of meeting its casualty reduction targets and its delivery of Community Strategy and Cumbria Agreement outcomes and Council Plan priorities, which are*

- *To safeguard children, and ensure that Cumbria is a great place to be a child and grow up*
- *To enable communities to live safely and shape services locally*
- *To provide safe and well maintained roads and an effective transport network*
- *To promote sustainable economic growth, and create jobs*
- *To be a modern and efficient council*

Members are advised that generally the enforcement of parking restrictions contribute to these commitments by continuing to ensure that the council are able to provide an effective and safe Highway Network.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION

3.1 *That members note the content of this report.*

4.0 BACKGROUND

4.1 Towards the end of the 2019/20 financial year, the COVID-19 pandemic became prevalent across the UK. In view of the challenges faced by local communities across Cumbria, the Council adopted a new approach to parking enforcement and diverted its resources to assist with other work.

4.2 In late March the decision was taken to reduce / minimise all proactive parking enforcement. The Civil Enforcement Officers were deployed to assist with the Welfare Hubs which had been established in Cumbria's 6 district areas. Officers provided a valuable and most welcomed service delivering food and medicine to vulnerable residents across the county who were shielding due to Coronavirus. The Service received significant praise from many individuals for this valuable and essential assistance and built new relationships with many community groups across Cumbria.

4.3 The enforcement of parking restrictions returned on a phased approach from June with initially warning notices being issued, then a targeted approach to tourist hotspots to assist in a multi-agency approach, then a return to the enforcement of parking restrictions in the town centres and then through to a return to full enforcement towards the end July.

4.4 Appendix 1 indicates the number of PCN's issued in the period April – August with most areas only starting issuing PCN's from July. As a result of the reduction in enforcement the number of PCN's issued throughout 2020 / 21 and the associated revenue will be lower than in previous years.

4.5 As in previous years from September regular monthly reports will be issued directly to members to keep them updated of the number of PCN's issued in each area.

4.6 During this period the library where parking permits were distributed from was closed as with many other public buildings and permits were issued remotely. A decision has been taken to continue with the remote distribution of permits permanently and an on line portal system will soon be launched to improve the distribution of permits. The move to a full countywide online or postal system for parking permits, will also ensure consistency and fairness across the County.

5.0 OPTIONS

5.1 Local Committee note the contents of this report and the appendices and suggest information they wish to see in the regular monthly reports.

6.0 RESOURCE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 There are no direct resource implications from the recommendation to note this report.

7.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no direct legal implications from the recommendation to note this report.

8.0 CONCLUSION

8.1 This report is an information report presenting the activity of the parking team in the first five months of this financial year. Each month update reports will be issued to members and they can express areas of concern directing to the Parking Team Leader or to the Network or Traffic Manager.

Angela Jones
Executive Director – Economy and Infrastructure

September 2020

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 ***Barrow Update April – August***

Appendix 2 ***Parking Services Annual Report 2019/20***

Electoral Divisions: All

Executive Decision

| | |
|--|----|
| | No |
|--|----|

Key Decision

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| | No |
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If a Key Decision, is the proposal published in the current Forward Plan?

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| | | N/A |
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Is the decision exempt from call-in on grounds of urgency?

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|--|----|
| | No |
|--|----|

If exempt from call-in, has the agreement of the Chair of the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committee been sought or obtained?

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| | | N/A |
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Has this matter been considered by Overview and Scrutiny?

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| | No |
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If so, give details below.

Has an environmental or sustainability impact assessment been undertaken?

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| | | N/A |
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Has an equality impact assessment been undertaken?

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| | | N/A |
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N.B. *If an executive decision is made, then a decision cannot be implemented until the expiry of the eighth working day after the date of the meeting – unless the decision is urgent and exempt from call-in and necessary approvals have been obtained.*

PREVIOUS RELEVANT COUNCIL OR EXECUTIVE DECISIONS
[including Local Committees]

No previous relevant decisions.

CONSIDERATION BY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Not considered by Overview and Scrutiny.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers

REPORT AUTHOR

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