

<b>9 September 2015</b>		<b>ITEM: 13</b> <b>01104411</b>
<b>Cabinet</b>		
<b>Annual Parking Report 2015</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Key	
<b>Report of:</b> Councillor Jane Pothecary, Portfolio Holder for Public Protection		
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Ann Osola – Head of Transportation and Highways		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> David Bull – Director of Planning and Transportation		
<b>This report is</b> Public		

## **Executive Summary**

The purpose of this report is to note and approve the publication of the Annual Parking Report for 2015 on the performance of the Parking Services, in accordance with the Traffic Management Act 2004.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

- 1.1 That Cabinet approves the publication of the Annual Parking Report for 2015, in accordance with the Traffic Management Act 2004.**
- 1.2 That Cabinet approve that Senior Officers continue to review the service and enforcement with a view to improve efficiency.**
- 1.3 That the Planning, Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee be consulted on the possible impact of any proposed car parking charges for 2016/17 on parking in Grays prior to any changes being agreed.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

- 2.1 Thurrock Council has operated Decriminalised Parking Enforcement since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2005 and enforces waiting and loading restrictions within the Borough, both on-street and within the car parks under its management.**
- 2.2 Part 6 of the Traffic Management Act 2004 came into force on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008, and replaced Decriminalised Parking Enforcement with Civil Parking Enforcement.**

2.3 It requires the Council to produce and publish an annual report providing financial and statistical information on its Civil Parking Enforcement activities.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

3.1 It is a requirement of the Traffic Management Act 2004 (TMA) to publish an Annual Parking Report on the performance of its Civil Parking Enforcement activities.

3.2 The appended report sets out the policies that drive the delivery of the Service and provides data on the activities undertaken in 2014/2015.

3.3 It also provides financial information relating to the parking account, and explains that 2014/15 was an improved year for parking income, which resulted in there being a budget surplus with penalty charge notices income increasing, compared to the previous year, despite fewer PCN's being issued.

3.4 The main areas of increases in income which influenced this budget outturn were:

- The removal of the CCTV enforcement vehicle trial;
- An increase in the recovery of costs for Penalty Charge Notices including successful tribunal cases;
- New management in place from January 2015 resulting in productivity rise.
- Increased recovery rate from the Debt Management Team including foreign drivers.

3.5 The report concludes by highlighting some of the Services' key priorities for 2015/16.

### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

4.1 The Traffic Management Act 2004 requires the Council to publish an Annual Parking Report on the performance of its Civil Parking Enforcement activities.

### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

5.1 The Annual Parking Report for 2015 will be sent to various stakeholders, including the Secretary of State for Transport, The Traffic Penalty Tribunal, Essex Police, Essex Fire Brigade and the Thurrock Chamber of Trade and Commerce, and will be published on the Council's website.

5.2 In the context of the proposed car parking charges review planned for 2016/17 when the next budget review is being considered, the Planning, Transport and Regeneration Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be consulted. They will be requested, prior to the budget being set, to review the possible impact that any increases may have on parking in Grays prior to any changes being agreed.

**6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

6.1 Civil Parking Enforcement relates directly to the corporate priority of providing a safe, clean and green environment.

**7. Implications**

**7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**  
**Management Accountant**

The full cost of preparing the Annual Parking Report for 2015 and consulting stakeholders has been met from existing revenue budgets.

**7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **David Lawson**  
**Solicitor/Monitoring Officer**

Under Section 87 of the Traffic Management Act 2004, the appropriate national authority may publish guidance to local authorities about any matter relating to their functions in connection with the civil enforcement of traffic contraventions. In exercising those functions, the Local Authority must have regard to any such guidance.

**7.3 Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Natalie Warren**  
**Community Development & Equalities Manager**

Hard copies of the Annual Parking Report for 2015 will be made available at the Civic Offices, where staff will be able to provide assistance, where required. It will also be published on the Council's website.

**7.4 Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None.

**8. Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- None

## **9. Appendices to the report**

- Appendix 1: Annual Parking Report 2015

### **Report Author:**

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