

DUMFRIES PARKING STRATEGY PROGRESS

1. Reason for Report

To update Members on progress with the Dumfries Parking Strategy.

2. Report Summary

2.1 The Dumfries Parking Strategy was agreed by the Ad-Hoc Dumfries Town Centre Regeneration Sub-Committee at its meeting on 30 August 2006.

2.2 Elements of the Strategy which are currently being developed include:

- rationalisation of on-street parking regulations;
- improvements to signing for car parks; and
- proposals for a Public Transport Interchange.

2.3 It is intended to report on the development of other elements of the Parking Strategy to future meetings.

3. Recommendations

Members are asked to

3.1 note progress on the following elements of the Dumfries Parking Strategy:

- rationalisation of on-street parking regulations;
- improvements to signing for car parks; and
- proposals for a Public Transport Interchange.

3.2 agree to proceed with the rationalisation of on-street parking regulations at an estimated cost of £65,000, subject to the agreement of the Planning and Environment Services Committee as budget holder.

4. Corporate Plan Links and Contribution

4.1 Enterprising and Learning Communities (para 3.3) – support and promote with partners, the development of Dumfries town centre and other specific projects that will have a major effect on the long-term economy of the whole of Dumfries and Galloway.

4.2 Enterprising and Learning Communities (para 3.3) – completing the review of the Dumfries traffic-management scheme for the smooth flow of all forms of road transport.

5. Resources/Value for Money Assessment

5.1 It is estimated that the cost of implementing the rationalisation of existing on-street parking will cost £65,000.

5.2 The cost of these works could be contained within the Town Centre Regeneration works budget held by Planning and Environment Services.

6. Risk Assessment

If no action was taken to implement the Dumfries Parking Strategy, there is a risk that this may be detrimental to the overall regeneration of Dumfries Town Centre.

7. Authorities and Legal Implications

7.1 Statutory procedures will require to be promoted.

7.2 It is intended that any objections received to the statutory procedures would be considered by the Nithsdale Area Regulatory Committee.

8. Consultations

The Director of Finance, the Chief Constable, the Area Manager Nithsdale, the Group Manager Local Services Nithsdale, the Operations Manager Legal Services and the Town Centre Regeneration Officer have been consulted and are in agreement with the terms of the report.

9. Background

9.1 At the meeting of the Planning and Environment Services Committee on 12 July 2005, Members agreed the framework for the development of a Parking Strategy for Dumfries Town Centre.

9.2 At the meeting of the Planning and Environment Services Committee on 9 May 2006 Members remitted to the Ad-Hoc Dumfries Town Centre Regeneration Sub-Committee to agree the Parking Strategy for Dumfries.

9.3 The Strategy was agreed by the Ad-Hoc Dumfries Town Centre Regeneration Sub-Committee at its meeting on 30 August 2006.

10. Key Issues

10.1 Elements of the Strategy which are currently being developed include:

- rationalisation of on-street parking regulations;
- improvements to signing for car parks; and
- proposals for a Public Transport Interchange.

10.2 As reported to the Sub Committee at its meeting on 30 August 2006 rationalisation of on-street parking regulations will involve the existing on-street regulations being simplified and the duration for which parking is allowed on-street being designated uniformly across the town centre at 2 hours.

10.3 At present there are some 24 existing Orders covering Disk Parking, Residents Parking and other various restrictions, and it is intended to consolidate these into one Order to assist ease of progression and implementation of the statutory procedures and also enforcement by Police personnel.

10.4 It is intended to progress statutory procedures in April.

10.5 There are a limited number of unrestricted on-street car parking spaces within the town centre on-street parking areas. It is not intended that these be made time restricted at this time and this situation be reviewed as other elements of the Parking Strategy develop.

10.6 Improvements to signing for car parks is being considered separately in the context of other signing initiatives. It is likely that there would be limited opportunities for these given the existing numbers of various signs in the town centre and surrounding areas. It is intended that a strategic overview of car park signing be undertaken as other elements of the Strategy develop.

10.7 Proposals for a Public Transport Interchange and accommodation of compensatory car parking are being developed through funding allocated by the South West of Scotland Transport Partnership.

10.8 These proposals along with other transportation Intervention Packages associated with the regeneration of Dumfries have been identified within the emerging Regional Transport Strategy currently being developed by the South West of Scotland Transport Partnership.

10.9 It is intended to report on the development of other elements of the Parking Strategy to future meetings.

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Background Papers:

Planning and Environment Services Committee Minute 12 July 2005;
Planning and Environment Services Committee Minute 9 May 2006; and
Ad-Hoc Dumfries Town Centre Regeneration Sub-Committee Minute 30 August
2006.