



Report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development

Scrutiny Board (City Development)

Date: 14th October 2008

Subject: Inquiry on Residents Parking Schemes – Session 2

Electoral Wards Affected: All

x

Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality and Diversity

Community Cohesion

Narrowing the Gap

1.0 Introduction

1.1 At the last meeting on the 9th September 2008 the Scrutiny Board commenced Session 1 of its inquiry on residents parking schemes. A copy of the relevant minute on this matter is attached to this report for ease of reference.

2.0 Session 2 of the Inquiry

2.1 The purpose of the session today is to look into any alternatives to the current system, in particular the suggestion that residents be allowed to fund such schemes themselves. In particular the board will consider:

- Information requested from the last session.
- The way in which this proposal would work in practice, particularly with regard to funding and enforcement.
- How revenue might be raised to offset the cost to residents. For instance, there could be scope in an area where a large proportion of residents were commuters to release some spaces during the day for 'pay and display' parking by non residents.
- Evidence from local Ward Councillors and individuals who have applied for resident parking and identified in Session 1.
- Best practice in other local authorities.

2.2 A joint report of the Chief Environmental Services Officer and Director of City Development is attached. This provides members with an overview of the process for the introduction of Resident Parking Schemes (RPS) and provides the information requested at the last meeting.

- 2.3 As requested at the last meeting the Executive Board Member for Environmental Services, Councillor Steve Smith has been invited to attend today's meeting to respond to issues raised by the Board which are within his portfolio of responsibility.
- 2.4 In accordance with the Board's terms of reference a number of Ward Councillors have also been invited as witnesses at today's meeting.
- 2.5 The Board is reminded that all Members of Council were consulted about this inquiry and a number of comments and information on particular "hotspots" in respect to residents parking schemes were reported at the last Board meeting. Any responses that have been received since that meeting will be reported to today's session.

3.0 Recommendations

3.1 The Board is requested to:

- (i) Consider the joint report of the Chief Environmental Services Officer and Director of City Development and seek any points of clarification and ask questions of the officers attending the meeting.
- (ii) Identify any further information the Board requires in respect to the evidence presented to date for consideration at Session 3 of this inquiry.
- (iii) Identify any witnesses the Board wishes to invite to Session 3 of this inquiry.
- (iv) Consider whether the Board has sufficient evidence to begin to identify recommendations for inclusion in its final report?

Background Papers

There are no background papers

35. Inquiry on Residents Parking Schemes - Session 1

Considered the attached report of the Head of Scrutiny and Member Development attaching reports from the Directors of Environment and Neighbourhoods and City Development for the first session of the Board's inquiry on Residents Parking Schemes.

Additional documents:

- [Final Revised terms of reference - resident parking](#)
- [Parking E&N report](#)
- [Specimen Permits](#)
- [City Dev report Resident Parking Schemes](#)
- [City Dev report appendix](#)

Minutes:

The Head of Scrutiny and Member Development submitted a report which outlined the agreed terms of reference for the Inquiry on Resident Parking Schemes and the issues to be discussed at Session One of the Board's inquiry.

Attached to the main report was a report from the Chief Environmental Services Officer which provided the Board with an overview of the administrative and enforcement processes involved with Resident Parking Schemes. Also attached was a report from the Director of City Development which outlined the process and procedures that were applied for the installation of resident parking schemes.

Comments received from Members on parking “hot spots” and comments and requests for resident parking schemes were tabled at the meeting and had previously been circulated to Members by email. The Chair reported that no comments had to date been received from Members of the Labour Group as he understood that it wished to discuss this issue prior to Members submitting their comments to the Board.

The Chair welcomed to the meeting Jean Dent, Director of City Development, Howard Claxton, Traffic Engineering Manager, City Development, Andrew Mason, Chief Environmental Services Officer, Environment and Neighbourhoods, Graham Wilson, Head of Environmental Action, Environment and Neighbourhoods and Helen Franklin, Acting Head of Highways Services, City Development.

The Head of Environmental Action presented the report of the Chief Environmental Services Officer and the Acting Head of Highways Services, along with the Traffic Engineering Manager, presented the report of the Director of City Development.

In summary, the following issues were raised:

- The **current arrangements** for residents parking in Leeds including the application process and rationale for a new residents parking schemes.
- **Length of time** from application to completion for resident parking schemes.
- The **cost** of resident parking schemes.
- The suggestion that resident permit parking schemes be made **self financing** by charging for permits on an annual basis instead of issuing them free for three years. Officers were requested to address this and provide details of authorities who charged resident parking fees in Session Two.
- **The suggestion of limiting the number of permits** per household - Officers advised that issues surrounding this would be provided in the next report to the Board at session two of the inquiry.
- The suggestion that residents be given the option to fund such schemes themselves to avoid the Council’s waiting list and how revenue could be raised to offset the cost to residents by releasing spaces during the day for pay and display when they were at work ie “Dual Use” – Officers confirmed that they would report on this at Session Two of the Board’s inquiry.
- **The suggestion that Leeds should be monitoring** and withdrawing residents parking schemes much more than at present. Officers agreed to report back to Session Two of the Board’s inquiry.
- The **dispensation** arrangements for family events in RPPS.
- **Fraudulent use of resident parking permits** - Officers to bring back any available figures on this to the next meeting of the Board.

The Board agreed that the relevant Executive Board Member should be invited to Session Two of the Board’s Inquiry, as would Elected Members who had provided the Board with their comments on resident parking schemes.

RESOLVED –

- (a) That a report be presented to Session Two of the Scrutiny Inquiry in accordance with the agreed Terms of Reference.
- (b) That the additional information referred to above be provided by Officers to Session Two of the Board’s Inquiry.
- (c) That the Executive Board Member for Environmental Services be invited to attend Session Two of the Board’s Inquiry.
- (d) That the Chair be authorised to invite appropriate Elected Members to attend Session Two of the Board’s Inquiry who had commented on or who had “hotspots” within their Ward.

(Note: Councillor R Procter and the Director of Development, both left the meeting at 11.30am during the consideration of this item.)