

TEIGNBRIDGE DISTRICT COUNCIL
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

12 NOVEMBER 2019

PART I

Report Title	Teignbridge Car Park Plan
Purpose of Report	To request that Overview and Scrutiny agree to re-start the Car Park Review Group to develop a Teignbridge Car Park Plan.
Recommendation(s)	The Committee RESOLVES to: (1) Restart the Car Park Plan Review Group; (2) Agree the proposed Terms of Reference and timeline; and (3) Request that Group leaders nominate representatives to sit on the group.

Financial Implications	<p>There are no direct financial implications as detailed in 2.1.1. The group will help to inform budget setting incomes and expenditures.</p> <p>Martin Flitcroft, Chief Finance Officer Tel: 01626 215246 martin.flitcroft@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
Legal Implications	<p>There are no legal implications as detailed in 2.2.1.</p> <p>Paul Woodhead, Legal Services Team Leader and Deputy Monitoring Officer Tel: 01626 215139 Paul.Woodhead@Teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
Risk Assessment	<p>The Parking Plan will reduce the risk of any decisions and investments into the Service being short-term and uncoordinated with long-term strategies.</p> <p>Neil Blaney, Economy Manager Tel: 01626 215233 neil.blaney@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
Environmental/ Climate Change Implications	<p>The review group offers the Council a positive opportunity to reduce the impacts of vehicle use on climate change and support sustainable transport options.</p> <p>David Eaton, Environmental Protection Manager Tel: 01626 215064 david.eaton@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
Report Author	<p>Neil Blaney, Economy Manager Tel: 01626 215233 neil.blaney@teignbridge.gov.uk</p>
Portfolio Holder	<p>Cllr Nina Jeffries, Portfolio Holder for Business, Economy and Tourism</p>
Appendices / Background Papers	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Report and minutes of original Car Park Review Group 2015 https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/committee-meetings-and-agendas-archive/overview-and-scrutiny-committee/overview-scrutiny-2015-2016/8-december-2015/ https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/media/3029/2015_december_8_exec_minutes.pdf Report and minutes of original Car Park Review Group 2018 https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/media/6703/overview-scrutiny-committee-9-april-final.pdf (Item 12, pp55-59); https://www.teignbridge.gov.uk/media/6744/os-minutes-9-april-2018.pdf (Minute 397, p310) Draft Terms of Reference (including indicative timeline)

1. REPORT DETAIL

- 1.1 In 2015 the Overview & Scrutiny Committee agreed to set up an Car Park Review Group to undertake a strategic review of the Council's off street parking policies so that Teignbridge's parking policy and operations remain current and effective to reflect the local need, whilst being cost-effective, embracing of new technologies and approaches to car parking.
- 1.2 The outcome of the Groups work included a series of investments into the service, including the introduction of card reading facilities in the payment machines and 'virtual' permits. Full details of the recommendations, which have now all been implemented, is set out in Appendix 1.
- 1.3 Following completion of that work the Group were tasked with developing a strategic Plan for the service.
- 1.4 The Review Group stopped meeting in 2017 due to a number of changes relating to the group members, including changing roles within the Council or no longer being at the Council.
- 1.5 The group did meet again in 2018 with new members and reported back to Overview and Scrutiny (Appendix 2), but unfortunately delays in initial evidence gathering meant that the work was not progressed.
- 1.6 It is proposed that the Group is restarted, in line with the Terms of Reference (ToR) attached as Appendix 3 to this report. The ToR also includes an indicative timescale for production of the Plan and the political balance of the group.

2. IMPLICATIONS, RISK MANAGEMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACT

2.1 Financial

- 2.1.1 There are no additional financial resources required. This will be covered by existing staffing time. The Group will however help to set out the approach to fees and charges and giving greater clarity on future investments which will inform the capital review group and capital programme budget.

2.2 Legal

- 2.2.1 There are no issues arising from a legal perspective from the creation of the Working Group or the development of a Car Parks Plan.

2.3 Risks

2.3.1 The lack of a Plan could lead to uncoordinated decisions and investments based on a short-term focus.

2.4 Environmental/Climate Change Impact

2.4.1 Vehicle emissions are the main cause of air pollution in our district and also contribute to climate change. Managing the parking in the Council owned car parks will contribute to the declared climate emergency and the aim of becoming carbon neutral by 2025.

2.4.2 The Council has the ability to use parking charges as a means of restraining/managing traffic (e.g. to reduce congestion), improving environmental quality (e.g. air pollution) and/or to encourage the use of sustainable transport modes (e.g. cycling and buses). The review group offers the opportunity for the Council to consider how it can support electric vehicles by investing in electric charging points and promoting sustainable transport including high levels of provision for quality secure cycle storage, linking to the existing cycle networks, car clubs and low emission vehicles.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 There are a couple of alternative approaches that could be taken to the strategic approach for running the Car Park service.

3.2 Continue the current approach, ad-hoc requests for new investments and the annual review of fees and charges. This approach also responds to requests from businesses, customers and local Councillors on a case by case basis.

3.3 Officer-led plan with Member approval at key consultation/publication stages. This would follow a similar time line and approach, but without a Member working group.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 The proposed approach will enable Members to be integral to the development of the long-term Plan for how the car parks are used and managed. The Plan will give transparency of the processes and approaches taken, and assist in strategic thinking on future investments.

4.2 Group leaders are requested to nominate representatives to sit on the group based on the following political balance: 3 x Liberal Democrats, 2 x Conservative, 1 x independent.