

## CABINET

<b>Date Of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2017
<b>Report Subject</b>	Review Of The Council's Residents Parking Policy
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
<b>Type Of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The main purpose of the highway is to facilitate traffic movement however parking is accepted where it does not impact upon the movement of traffic, create a safety hazard, obstruct emergency vehicle access or access to properties. In other areas, parking on the highway is controlled by restrictions (yellow lines) introduced by Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) but where there is a need for residents to park on street, in the absence of off street parking places, a Resident Parking Scheme can be implemented to allow residents to park in marked bays outside their properties when displaying a valid permit.

Flintshire County Council adopted a Resident Parking Scheme in 2013 to assist those living in properties, without adequate off street parking, who have problems parking outside their properties due to businesses or visitors utilising free on street parking areas to avoid car parking charges.

Currently there is no criteria for prioritising Resident Parking Schemes or limiting how many schemes can be considered in a financial year and this report recommends a process for prioritising scheme implementation and limiting the number of schemes progressed within each financial year and updates the policy to reflect the changes. The policy has also been changed to allow a second proposal to be considered in a smaller area within the original proposals.

An initial report taken to Scrutiny in June of this year recommended that the level of local support, required to bring a scheme forward should be increased and this proposal has also been covered within this report.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	That Cabinet approves the changes to the existing Residents Parking Policy.
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2.	That Cabinet approves the Residents Parking Scheme Assessment Matrix which will be used to prioritise future requests for Residents Parking schemes.
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## **REPORT DETAILS**

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE REQUIREMENT TO AMMEND THE RESIDENT PARKING POLICY</b>
1.01	Flintshire County Council adopted a Resident Parking Policy in 2013 ( <b>Appendix 1</b> ) in order to assist residents that did not have off street parking provision and provided parking on streets in the locality of their properties. This would prevent local businesses or town centre visitors utilising residential areas for parking to avoid paying car parking charges.
1.02	Since that time a number of schemes have been progressed to the “local ballot” stage where they have all failed to achieve the required local majority (currently more than 50% need to be in favour of a scheme, in order for it to proceed). Consequently no Residents Parking Schemes have been implemented since the introduction of the policy, despite the growing demand for such schemes by residents and community areas across the County.
1.03	It is proposed that a Resident Parking Scheme Assessment Matrix <b>Appendix 2</b> is introduced to prioritise requested schemes for consideration. This will score relevant aspects of the policy against the need for the scheme and is consistent with the Traffic Regulation Order Assessment Matrix for prioritising traffic restrictions.
1.04	Due to significant changes in off-street parking arrangement in the past year, the number of requests for Resident Parking schemes are increasing and the cost (in terms of staff resources) needed to bring the schemes to the “local ballot” stage are high and unsustainable. It is recommended therefore that following assessment via the matrix, the three highest scoring Resident Parking Schemes are progressed each financial year. This is affordable within current budgets and staff resources within the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio.
1.05	<p>The current policy does not define when a proposed scheme can be revisited once it had been rejected by residents or if a proposal can be reconsidered by a reduced area or zone within the original area. It is therefore proposed that a residents only parking proposal can be reconsidered in the following situations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been significant change to the traffic or parking management arrangements in the vicinity, such as increased car parking charges or the implementation of an adjacent Traffic Regulation Order.</li> <li>• A particular street or group of streets within the original zone are</li> </ul>

	<p>experiencing particular parking issues and a proposal receives the support of both the Local Member and Town/Community Council.</p> <p>Any reassessment would be subject to prioritisation through the matrix detailed within this report, as per all other proposed schemes for consideration within that financial year.</p>
1.06	<p>Following a report to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June of this year, a recommendation was made by the Committee for the level of local support, required to bring a scheme to delivery, should be increased from 50% to 75%. Whilst the recommendation has been considered, it has not been included within the revised policy. The reason being that it is extremely unlikely that any proposal would receive a 75% response and then a 75% approval rating and this would effectively block any schemes being progressed in future. 50% is the approval level operated in other Councils where Residents Parking options are offered to the community.</p>
1.07	<p>The existing Resident Parking Policy will be updated to include the changes detailed in this report. <b>Appendix 3.</b></p>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	<p>Resident Parking schemes are provided from existing budgets within the Streetscene and Transportation portfolio.</p>

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	<p>With Cabinet Member.</p>
3.02	<p>Once location identified - Local Member(s), Residents in locality, and Businesses in locality.</p>

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	<p>Vehicle displacement will be considered on a case by case basis.</p>
4.02	<p>The number of scheme requests a year will be significantly higher than can be accommodated.</p>

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	<p>Appendix 1 – Current Resident Parking Policy.</p>
5.02	<p>Appendix 2 – Resident Parking Scheme Assessment Matrix.</p>
5.02	<p>Appendix 3 – Revised Residents Parking Policy.</p>

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Stephen O Jones <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704700 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk">stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>Resident Parking:</b> Clearly marked parking bays on streets outside residential properties which allows residents parking only - with a designated permit.