
Council



St Edmundsbury
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Title of Report:	Report by Cllr Ian Houlder Chairman of Overview and Scrutiny Committee	
Report No:	COU/SE/15/011	
Report to and date	Council	24 February 2015

This report covers the meeting of the Committee held on 17 December 2014.

17 December 2014

1. Car Park Tariffs 2015-16

- 1.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committee received a report which referred to Cabinet Report D223 (12 December 2012), which recommended that the Committee receives a report each year outlining any recommendations from Officers for changes to car park tariffs including supporting evidence and justification for changes. The resulting recommendations would be considered by the Performance and Audit Scrutiny Committee as part of the budget setting process on 29 January 2015.
- 1.2 Members were informed of the proposed recommendations and justifications, which was in line with the Overview and Scrutiny Committee's review carried out in 2012.
- 1.3 The Committee examined the proposed recommendations in detail. In particular discussions were held on:
 - (1) The current "Free from 3" parking initiative which had been introduced as a trial in an attempt to increase footfall and revenue to traders in Bury St Edmunds and Haverhill on quieter trading days and was not intended for busy days. Members representing Haverhill felt that the "Free from 3" was not making a difference in increasing footfall on Fridays and suggested that this be reviewed as part of the full parking review in June 2015.
 - (2) The National Standard used in calculating the number of disabled spaces required. The Car Parks Manager informed Members he was happy to

visit car parks and work with ward members who had particular concerns about disabled parking.

- (3) The cost of using Ringo, which would be reviewed alongside the tariff structures for 2015.
- (4) The talks taking place between the Council and West Suffolk College in promoting public transport to students to resolve parking issues since the College had introduced charging.

1.4 The Committee endorsed the proposed recommendations, which would be presented to the Performance and Audit Scrutiny on 29 January 2015.

2. Work Programme Update and Suggestions for Scrutiny

2.1 The Committee has a rolling work programme, whereby suggestions for scrutiny reviews are brought to each meeting, and if accepted are timetabled to report to a future meeting. The work programme also leaves space for Call-ins and Councillor Calls for Action.

2.2 The Committee at its meeting considered two suggestion for scrutiny review forms proposing a:

- (1) Review of Shared Services to ensure no negative impact on users and that the joint service was fit for purpose; and
- (2) Review of the Leader and Cabinet Model of St Edmundsbury Borough Council.

2.3 A lengthy debate on the two issues was held, and taking into account information provided during the meeting by members, the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Governance and officers, the Committee resolved that:

- (1) A Member Learning and Development Session on the Shared Services model and corporate working practices be arranged to take place prior to the elections in May 2015; and
- (2) The operation of the Leader and Cabinet Model be incorporated within the Member Learning and Development Session to be arranged to take place prior to the elections in May 2015 in respect of the issues arising from the two scrutiny suggestions.