# DECRIMINALISED PARKING ENFORCEMENT ACTION PLAN

## 1 SUMMARY

1.1 This report advises Members on the current position on implementing Decriminalisation of Parking Enforcement (DPE) in the Rochford District. Members are also requested to consider the DPE action plan appended to this report.

## 2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Road Traffic Act 1991 provides for the decriminalisation of certain non-endorsable parking offences in London and allows local authorities outside London to apply to the Secretary of State for similar powers. These mainly include parking offences on yellow lines and in parking spaces. It does not include endorsable parking offences and offences related to obstruction which the Police continue to be responsible for.
- 2.2 Decriminalised Parking Enforcement powers allow the local authorities to take over responsibility for enforcing parking contraventions from the Police and to retain the revenue received from penalties to fund their enforcement activities.
- 2.3 The Council will be adopting the powers to enforce on-street parking regulations under the terms of an agreed Agency Agreement with Essex County Council and the target go-live date is October 2004.

### 3 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 As Members are aware, a new Transportation Section was set up in February of this year, based at the Civic Suite, and the team are settling in with their new duties and change of location. The Assistant Manager will be overseeing the introduction of DPE in the District and appended to this report is the project plan for Rochford detailing all the essential actions to be completed prior to implementation in October 2004.
- 3.2 As indicated, the principal tasks in the near future will be:
  - a) to obtain a revised, up-to-date financial model.
  - b) to consult with Essex County Council on the draft application to the Secretary of State for Transport.
  - c) to begin the comprehensive review of the Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO's) throughout the District.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** - 5 June 2003

3.3 Essex County Council advocates 18 months as a comfortable timeframe for the implementation of DPE and activities will gather
momentum as October 2004 grows nearer. Some actions have already
been completed such as the resolution on charges and the whole
process will undoubtedly be streamlined by the knowledge and
experience passed on by other Authorities that have already
implemented DPE.

#### 4 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Adoption of decriminalisation powers and effective enforcement will assist in the free movement of traffic throughout the District.

# 5 PARISH IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Decriminalisation of parking and its effective enforcement affects all parts of the District.

# 6 RECOMMENDATION

- 6.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES** 
  - (1) That the contents of this report and the attached Action Plan are noted.
  - (2) That a further up-date is provided to this committee in 6 months time.

S J Clarkson

Head of Revenue & Housing Management

# **Background Papers:**

None

For further information please contact Jonathan Desmond on:-

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