



meeting	ENVIRONMENT STANDING SELECT	
date	29 June 2004	agenda item

REPORT FOR THE DIRECTOR FOR ENVIRONMENT

DECRIMINALISED PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Purpose of Report

- 1 To inform Members of the current position with regard to decriminalised parking enforcement (DPE) and to indicate significant issues likely to emerge over the project period.
2. To seek a steer from the Select Committee on its role in the policy development of DPE.

Background

- 2 A report to Cabinet on 21 April 2004 informed Members of the conclusions of a feasibility study into the decriminalising of parking enforcement in Nottinghamshire and sought approval in principle to begin consultation with the District Councils prior to the County Council applying to assume such powers. The Cabinet report is attached as Appendix A. In addition, to assist with this subject, RTA Consultants who were commissioned to produce the study, have been invited to give a presentation to Select Committee on the study findings and the future project and be available to answer any questions.

Project Development

- 3 As part of the feasibility study, RTA Consultants have produced a typical project plan drawn from their experience of implementing DPE across the country. It is anticipated that the project will take approximately two years to complete and thus the current target implementation date is June/July 2006. In accordance with the Cabinet resolution, at appropriate junctures, Environment Standing Select Committee will be invited to consider operational details of the project. The key issues that need to be considered are:

- (i) Traffic Regulation Order review: electronic mapping, checking and rectifying all existing TROs prior to enforcement.
- (ii) District Council liaison: the determination of the preferred method of enforcement.
- (iii) Enforcement Strategy: nature and extent of the on-street enforcement regime.
- (iv) Operational Issues: tendering of enforcement, training of enforcement, training of attendants, uniforms etc.
- (v) Formal application for enforcement powers to the Secretary of State.
- (vi) Publicity.

Role of the Environment Select Committee

- 3. As Members will no doubt appreciate the County Council need to very carefully consider the implications of decriminalisation powers before reaching a decision on the way forward. Apart from external advice and involvement of various stakeholders, partners and County Councillors in this respect, the Select Committee is asked to discuss the manner in which it should contribute to the development of policies and options available in order to improve traffic management in the County.

Officer Working Group

- 4. To manage this project, an interdepartmental officer working group has been set-up. It is the intention to employ a full time project manager to oversee the programme of DPE once the way forward is agreed with the Cabinet Member for Environment.

PETER WEBSTER
Director for Environment

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