

## **Multi Storey Car Park, Whitehaven**

**Head of Service:** Tim Capper, Heads of Democratic Services  
**Report Author:** Neil White, Scrutiny Support Officer

**Recommendation: that the comments of the Whitehaven Harbour Commission be received and considered.**

### **BACKGROUND**

Members will recall that this item has been before the committee on a number of times after it was first raised as an issue of concern by members at the committee meeting on 1 April 2008.

Since the last meeting an invitation has been sent to the Harbour Commissioners who own the car park and the car park operator APCOA to attend the meeting to help the committee consider the issues at the Multi Storey Car Park in Whitehaven.

At the time of writing the report confirmation had not yet been received as to whether the Commissioners would be able to attend.

Further to Councillor Woodman's suggestion a Health and Safety investigation has been undertaken by Environmental Health of the steps at the car park.

The Health and Safety Inspector comments that:

The problem stems from the original construction and technically, it is quite a difficult problem to resolve without huge expenditure and inconvenience.

The Harbour Commissioners are trialing different methods to reduce the slip risk on the stairways.

In the short term, they are to trial carborundum-type strips (2 per step) on the stairway to evaluate their wear and suitability as an interim measure that would help to reduce the risks. This trial is underway – the first area tested was the protected area. The Health and Safety Inspector has required that the trial is extended to the exposed stairway area.

In the long term, consideration is being given to enclosing the open area to eliminate the weather effect – this could be in the next 2 – 3 years.

Other developments would be dependent on possible planning developments in and around Whitehaven.

**List of Appendices**

None

**List of Background Documents**

None