

**CIVIL PARKING ENFORCEMENT (CPE)**

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Deputy Leader Councillor George Clements  
Portfolio Holder Councillor Geoff Blackwell  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Acting Head of Leisure and Environmental Services  
Cath Coombs  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Open Spaces Manager – Toni Magean

**Summary and Recommendation:**

Cumbria County Council has approached Copeland Borough Council seeking to reach an agreement whereby Civil Parking Enforcement continues under local management into the 2009/10 financial year for a duration of up to 12 months.

**It is recommended that:**

- a) Executive agrees to the principal of continuing with CPE enforcement as a variation to the existing agreement which would otherwise terminate on 31 March 2009.
- b) The determination of details in relation to the variation is delegated to the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Finance and Management Information Systems and Portfolio Holder.

**1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 In early 2007 the Executive agreed that the Councils agreement with Cumbria County Council to enforce civil parking provision in Copeland would be retained under a 12 month agreement as outlined by Cumbria County Council. This was subsequently extended for an additional 12 month period and therefore the agreement formally ends on 31 March 2009.
- 1.2 At the end of December 2008 an approach was received from Cumbria County Council to ascertain the terms that would enable Copeland Borough Council to retain CPE enforcement past 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009. An indication was given that the County Council would be willing to underwrite this Council's cost in running the enforcement function subject to formal agreement and agreed financial proposal

- 1.3 Although any decision to retain CPE enforcement is a decision of this Executive the principals of an arrangement were discussed, those being
- a) The County Council would cover financial loss up to an agreed amount incurred by Copeland BC
  - b) Any arrangements would be by way of varying the existing CPE agreement rather than fundamental re-write of the agreement.
- 1.3 In terms of future direction it is clear the County Council see parking as a strong contender for operation as a shared service with a central notice processing. How this will evolve is yet to be seen but this Council's exposure to the process can be managed as currently done via fixed term appointments, which would be subject to short term extension.

## **2. CONCLUSIONS**

- 2.1 Retention of the CPE enforcement role assists Copeland Borough Council in the economics of scale of the enforcement unit, particularly in balancing workflow. In addition by increasing enforcement levels it gives the Council the ability to ensure parts of the borough other than Whitehaven gain a stronger civil parking presence.
- 2.2 Should it be the decision of this Executive to maintain Civil Parking Enforcement, a financial proposal will be provided to the County Council which shows a deficit requirement of £26,500 in the 09/10 financial year. These figures assume a £85,000 fine income level which on the current year's performance is achievable and will retain three enforcement officers. The implications of job evaluation have been factored in.
- 2.3 Executive is therefore asked to confirm they wish to extend the CPE agreement for a further 12 months on the principal outlined in 1.3 and if so to delegate the determination of details to the Head of Leisure and Environmental Services in consultation with the Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Head of Finance and Management Information Systems and Portfolio Holder

## **5. FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOURCES OF FINANCE)**

- 5.1 Any implications will be cost neutral on this Council.
- 5.2 Renewal of fixed term contracts, up to 12 months (depending on final agreement).

## 6. IMPACT ON CORPORATE PLAN

6.1 By helping to manage environmental nuisance this proposal supports the Corporate Plan.

**List of Appendices:** None

**List of Background Documents:** None.

**List of Consultees:** Corporate Team, Len Gleed, Deputy Leader Cllr George Clements, Cllr Geoff Blackwell.

### **CHECKLIST FOR DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES**

Please confirm against the issue if the key issues below have been addressed. This can be by either a short narrative or quoting the paragraph number in the report in which it has been covered.

Impact on Crime and Disorder	Direct impact by controlling inappropriate parking
Impact on Sustainability	None
Impact on Rural Proofing	By increasing the resources dedicated to enforcement rural proofing is supported
Health and Safety Implications	None
Impact on Equality and Diversity Issues	None
Children and Young Persons Implications	None
Human Rights Act Implications	None
Section 151 Officer Comments	No comments
Monitoring Officer Comments	No comments