

**Environment & Transport Select Committee
Wednesday 18 May 2011**

ITEM 4: QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

The Select Committee has received two questions from members of the public:

(1) Question from Mr Bland:

‘In response to my supplementary public question under Item 4 of the Environment & Economy Committee Meeting on 22 April 2010, the Chairman said: "The Select Committee undertakes periodic reviews of community recycling centre policy and operation from time to time. The Chairman at that time can consider whether to consider this particular policy when the next review takes place."

Has such a review taken place since April 2010 and has the Chairman considered this particular policy under such review?

Explanatory Note: The ‘particular policy’ referred to is the way in which the Council implements its statutory duties under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978.’

Response

There haven't been any reports to the Select Committee on community recycling centre policy since that response was provided, but an item is due to be considered at the meeting on 30 June 2012. This will include a commentary on the Council's construction waste policy.

Since the response to your original question, the Council has also been notified by the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) of the outcome of its investigation into a complaint that the Council was not complying with the Refuse Disposal Amenity Act 1978. Defra have advised the Council that it considers that Surrey County Council is meeting its obligations under the 1978 Act, and that the complainant has been notified accordingly.

(2) Question from Mr Palmer:

‘I watched with interest the debate at the Council meeting about the petition on pay and display parking. Given the statements made by County Councillor Lake and County Councillor Povey at the Council meeting on 10 May 2011, in consideration of consultations on parking proposals, particularly those related to Pay and Display Parking/On-street Parking, **please confirm that:**

Annexe 1

- (a) That the views of all residents will be taken into account – not just the views of Conservative County Councillors as indicated by County Councillor Lake during the Council meeting!
- (b) That, given that revised proposals will now no longer necessarily be the same across the County (for which reason decision making was taken back centrally), the SCC Local Committees will decide which locally appropriate parking solutions if any, including Pay and Display, to implement in each borough – i.e. not any individual Cabinet member or committee centrally; and
- (c) That no further implementation proposals will be presented to, or accepted by, Local Committees/Select Committee or Cabinet unless supported by a full business case. Such business case should be segmented by borough and should show
 - the current net cost/net income on parking enforcement
 - the estimated best/probable/worst case change in financial performance for the new proposals; and
 - should contain measurable and relevant success criteria (that include impact on business and residents and any other parameter identified as a benefit or risk).

Response

- (a) All the views put forward in response to the proposed on-street charges are considered before making recommendations or decisions.
- (b) It is not planned to change the current arrangement whereby the Cabinet will make decisions about on-street parking charges in each area of the County. This countywide project will be overseen by the Cabinet and Cabinet member to ensure consistency across the County.
- (c) Much of this information is contained in the Task Group's report already. The consultation response and analysis will be more detailed as it is carried out in specific areas around the County. Compliance with the parking time limits is one way of monitoring success. Better compliance helps 'churn', allowing customers more chance to find a space and we're looking at ways of measuring this. There are many other factors influencing businesses such as e-commerce, competition and the wider economy. The consultation process should ensure that parking charges are set appropriately in a particular area, however parking restrictions are usually subject to regular review so tariffs and times can be adjusted to suit changing conditions as necessary.

Steve Renshaw
Chairman