



## **SCC LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SPELTHORNE**

### **DECRIMINALISATION OF PARKING ENFORCEMENT UPDATE**

**11 JULY 2005**

#### **KEY ISSUE AND SUMMARY:**

To update the Committee of the progress so far of Decriminalisation Parking Enforcement (DPE) with the Spelthorne Borough.

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Committee is asked to note the contents of the report .

#### **1. BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 DPE is the enforcement of yellow lines (waiting restrictions) by another party other than the Police.
- 1.2 In April this year DPE was introduced in the Borough of Spelthorne and the enforcement of waiting restrictions was passed to the County Council from Surrey Police. This formed part of an ongoing programme headed by the

County Council to implement DPE in all eleven districts and boroughs across Surrey.

- 1.3 Under an Agency Agreement Spelthorne Borough Council now undertake that enforcement on behalf of the County Council. This is achieved by the County Council paying for the equivalent of two parking attendants to patrol on street, a total of 72 hours per week. The Borough Council as part of their car parks operation make sure that this time is utilised in an ordered and structured way. This is achieved through Parking Enforcement and Operational Policies, jointly agreed by both Councils.
- 1.4 The Parking Enforcement Policy is available to the public and can be accessed on the Spelthorne Borough Council website or at the Council Offices, Knowle Green. The Agency Agreement and Operational Policy are confidential, due to the contractual and sensitive content within them. Members can view these documents by appointment at the Town Hall or Local Transportation Office.

## **2. ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY**

- 2.1 Since the 14 April a total of 192 PCNs have been issued across the Borough. This is considered low, based on experience gathered from other districts already involved in DPE. For information the term PCN refers to a Penalty Charge Notice, issued to a vehicle found illegally parked on waiting restrictions.
- 2.2 The low number of PCNs issued has been the direct result of problems surrounding the upgrading of the current yellow lines and signs. Once complete it is intended to hand over the maintenance of the yellow lines and signs to the Borough Council as part of the Agreement. The Local Transportation Service and the Borough Council are working together to resolve this matter.
- 2.3 In future updates there will be a division by division breakdown of where the PCN's have been issued, information on how many PCNs were successful, challenged or cancelled and matters arising from the Task Group meetings. As discussed above matters concerning the Agreement and Operations, such as deployment, cannot be discussed in public but can be addressed in private or through the Task Group. See paragraph 3 for a description of the Task Group.
- 2.4 It is suggested that the next update be brought to the Committee in October, which will contain a full six months worth of information and should give a clearer idea of how DPE is progressing.

## **3. TASK GROUP**

Agenda item 8 refers to the need to re-establish the DPE Task Group.

## **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There is an ongoing financial implication to the County Council's central DPE budget, as detailed in paragraph 1.3.
- 4.2 At present only the upgrade of existing yellow lines and signs is being funded by the Local Transportation Service, through it's revenue budget. However future work associated with the modification, addition or removal of waiting restrictions will need to be funded from Local Transportation Service budgets.
- 4.3 Once the upgrade of the existing yellow lines and signs is complete, their maintenance will be undertaken and funded by the Borough Council, as per the Agency Agreement.

## **5 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The successful implementation and running of DPE should help to keep the public highway safe and free moving.

## **6 CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no implications.

## **7 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There are no implications.

## **8 CONCLUSION AND REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 The implementation of DPE has already started to benefit many Spelthorne residents and businesses and it is hoped that once the yellow lining and signing upgrade has been completed the full effect of DPE will be evident.
- 8.2 The re-establishment of the DPE Task Group will confirm a commitment to working in partnership with the Borough Council and will provide support for the development and improvement of DPE across the Borough.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS: There is none**