

<b>MEETING</b>	THE COUNCIL
<b>DATE</b>	1 MARCH 2012
<b>TITLE</b>	RESIDENTS PARKING
<b>PURPOSE</b>	TO RESPOND TO A NOTICE OF MOTION
<b>REPORT BY</b>	ALED DAVIES - HEAD OF REGULATORY DEPARTMENT
<b>PORTFOLIO LEADER</b>	COUNCILLOR W. GARETH ROBERTS, SENIOR PORTFOLIO LEADER - ENVIRONMENT

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 A notice of motion was submitted to the Council on this matter on 20 May 2011. The Council decided to refer the notice for consideration by the Environment Scrutiny Committee as part of its intention to consider the Resident Parking Schemes in their entirety.
- 1.2 The report of the Head of Regulatory Department on the Resident Parking Schemes was submitted to the Environment Committee on 15 June 2011. The Committee decided that it was generally satisfied with the arrangements but that it was eager for the Parking Working Group to undertake further work on the matters referred to in the notice of motion and the costs of the parking tickets associated with the schemes.
- 1.3 The Parking Working Group met on 20 December 2011, when detailed information was submitted on the business cases of sites considered for establishing resident parking schemes.
- 1.4 A further report, summarising the conclusions of the Working Group, was submitted to the Environment Committee on 26 January 2012.

## **2. THE DISCUSSIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

- 2.1 The Committee noted that some areas had decided against a scheme, quoting ticket prices as one of the reasons. Despite this, it appeared that the current financial model for resident parking schemes worked well and that the opportunity to consider the options of setting fees at different levels had been valuable before making a final decision on the matter.
- 2.2 It was noted that every residents parking scheme had one-off costs, as well as permanent revenue costs in terms of enforcement and administration.

- 2.3 The Committee acknowledged that the residents parking schemes were an optional provision and the Committee agreed with the views of the Working Group that in the current economic climate it was difficult to justify additional expenditure on optional schemes in particular where they could have a detrimental impact on the provision of existing services.
- 2.4 After considering the options of charging lower fees for the parking tickets and the possible impact of implementing the options, the Working Group accepted that residents did not like paying for season tickets. However, the Working Group was of the opinion that a price, which was the equivalent of £1 a week for the first vehicle and approximately £1.50 a week for the second vehicle, was very reasonable, especially given the context that this level did not cover all the costs associated with the schemes and the financial context the Council currently faced.
- 2.5 The Working Group recommended that the ticket prices should not be reduced.
- 2.6 The Committee heard that this scheme was working well in streets in Dolgellau and that residents and the local member were grateful that the Council had managed to implement a scheme which contributed to overcoming problems in that particular location.

### **3. CONCLUSIONS**

- 3.1 After considering all the evidence in support and against, the Environment Committee resolved to accept the recommendation of the Parking Working Group that the price of residents parking tickets should not be reduced and that the fees would be subject to annual reviews in accordance with the Council's financial regulations.