

WILTSHIRE COUNCIL

Staffing Policy Committee

1 November 2017

Staff car parking near county hall

Purpose

1. The purpose of this item is to bring to the attention of staffing policy committee that staff car parking in the near vicinity of county hall is likely to be reduced from next year.

Background

2. In February 2015 all staff based at county hall were given the opportunity to park free of charge on the east wing and greyhound site by applying for a staff permit.
3. Permits were also made available for staff to park in Lovemead car park in Trowbridge town centre.
4. At the same time arrangements were put in place for staff who needed to regularly use their cars for unplanned or emergency situations via a priority car parking permit system.
5. There are 773 staff car parking spaces currently available near county hall at the east wing, greyhound and county hall sites and a further 165 in Lovemead, bringing the total available spaces to 938.

Main considerations

6. The east wing site at county hall has the potential to be developed and outline planning permission was sought at the start of August 2017. The outcome of the planning permission will be known at the end of October 2017.
7. Should planning permission be granted work is likely to start on the east wing site in 2018. This will mean a loss of around 315 of the current 938 staff car parking spaces, leaving a balance of 623.
8. In order to gather data on which employees currently drive to work at county hall and whether the reduction in car parking spaces will cause that to change a survey is being designed to send out to all staff later this year.
9. An initial assessment has been carried out of the available car parking spaces in Trowbridge town centre and the data is available in the table below:

Car Park	Capacity	Peak Usage	Demand (%)
The Shire's	1,000	340	34.0%
St Stephen's MSCP ⁵	446	365	81.9%
Lovemead	165	48	29.3%
Broad Street	35	24	69.1%
Court Street	78	21	26.8%
St Stephen's Place	111	57	51.6%
Gateway	240	124	51.6%
TOTAL	2,075	1,058	51.0%

10. The data shows that should staff who currently drive to work wish to continue to do this once the east wing site is developed there are plenty of car parking spaces available in the town centre, although there will be a cost involved to park there.
11. A staff car parking group has been established from across the organisation, to include union representation, to consider staff car parking issues and they are meeting on a monthly basis.
12. The group will also be considering the effect of any decisions made for Trowbridge staff car parking on the provision of staff car parking at the other hubs in Chippenham and Salisbury.

Environmental Impact of the proposal

13. Whilst the loss of car parking spaces will cause an issue for some staff the council is also mindful that the current provision of car parking spaces is not in line with our sustainable transport plan which stipulates that for an office building this size the council should have around 500 car parking spaces.

Equalities impact of the proposal

14. An equality impact assessment will be carried out once more detail is known.

Risk Assessment

15. None

Financial Implications of the proposal

16. None

Recommendations

17. It is recommended that:

- Staffing policy committee note the contents of the report and that information on proposals from the staff car parking group is shared with the committee when it becomes available.

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