

Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel

**Agenda
Item No.**

DATE: 19th APRIL, 2011

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Update on Town Centre Parking Working Group

Ward(s) All

Portfolios: Councillor Ansell - Transport

Report:

This report sets out a summary of the progress made by the Town Centre Parking Working Group and informs the Panel of the planned future work of the group.

The Working Group consists of:

Councillor L Beeley (Lead Member)
Councillor R. Carpenter
Councillor D. Anson
Councillor J. Cook

To date the Working Group has met on four occasions. The Panel received an update on the first two meetings at their meeting held on 8 March, 2011. A copy is appended to this report.

At the third meeting of the Working Group Members heard from business representatives from the chamber of commerce. A number of matters were discussed including the difficulties faced by businesses in the Premier and Crown Wharf business parks due to on-street parking, over use of the 3 car parks within the business parks and the impact for on street parking due to the residential development along George Street. Members also discussed planning conditions relating to major developments within the town and the associated parking conditions. The current condition of the Hatherton Road multi storey car park was considered as was the charging structure and location of car parks within the town centre.

Arising from discussions at the above and previous meetings a draft final report was produced and considered by Members at their meeting held on 7th April, 2011. The draft final report contains several recommendations which seek, amongst others, to address the concerns of local businesses as well as ensuring that car park provision within Walsall is priced according to location.

It was anticipated that the draft final report would be ready for consideration by the Panel at its meeting held on 19th April, 2011 however it was agreed by the Panel that it be deferred to the new municipal year. This will enable all those whom contributed to the investigation to consider the draft and ensure that the Panel receive a document that has been thoroughly considered.

Recommendations:

That:


The Environment Scrutiny and Performance Panel note the progress made by the Town Centre Parking Working Group and note that the draft Final report will be considered by the Panel in the 2011/12 Municipal Year.



Councillor L. Beeley
Lead Member of the Town Centre Parking Working Group

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