

**ANGUS COUNCIL**

**ROADS COMMITTEE**

**9 MARCH 2000**

**CAR PARKING REGULATIONS- ENFORCEMENT**

**REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF ROADS**

**ABSTRACT**

This report considers proposals for new measures of enforcement for the off-street car parking regulations throughout Angus

**1 RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Committee agree that the Director of Roads should enter into negotiations with the Director of Planning and Transportation of Dundee City Council with a view to the enforcement of the off-street car parking regulations being undertaken by his staff.

**2 INTRODUCTION**

Under Tayside Regional Council, the enforcement of off-street car parking regulations in Dundee and Angus was carried out by Roads Department staff operating from Dundee. Generally speaking enforcement was necessary to ensure that the appropriate payment had been made, that the time paid for had not been exceeded, that vehicles were parked within bays, and that vehicles parked within a disabled bay had a valid orange badge, as well as other minor offences. When Angus Council came into being in 1996, all parking charges were dropped. One member of the Roads Department staff continued to ensure that vehicles were parked within bays and legitimately parked within a disabled bay. In July 1998 the fixed penalty charge for offences was increased from £16 to £30, and a number of short stay (maximum 2 hours) car parks were introduced. Since then, and following the retiral of the member of staff involved in supervising the car parks, enforcement has been carried out intermittently by other Roads Department staff in conjunction with their other duties. With a penalty of £30, however, fewer penalty tickets have been issued. It was felt necessary, therefore, to review the enforcement procedures.

**3 DETAILS**

There is a considerable amount of administration required in enforcing the car park regulations. If the initial penalty charge is not paid within the due time, then the identity of the vehicle's registered keeper has to be ascertained through the DVLC in Swansea. Various reminders have to be issued and if the penalty charge is still not paid, the case may end up in court. These procedures are most efficiently carried out with the help of a computer and the appropriate specialist software. It would not

however be cost effective to acquire the necessary hardware and software to deal with the number of penalty charges issued in Angus.

It is proposed therefore that discussions should take place with the Director of Planning and Transportation of Dundee City Council with a view to his supervisors and administration staff carrying out the enforcement in the Angus Car parks. All the computerised backup is already available and most of the supervisors have operated in Angus previously. Enforcement will only be required on a random and intermittent basis, but Saturdays and holidays would be easier to cover.

#### **4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

It is anticipated that the cost of enforcement on this basis would be met from the income from the penalty charges with a small surplus returned to the Car Parking Reserve Fund.

#### **5 CONSULTATION**

The Chief Executive, the Director of Law and Administration, the Director of Finance and the Chief Constable have been consulted in the preparation of this Report.

The Director of Planning & Transport, Dundee City Council has also been consulted in the preparation of this report and is agreeable in principle to the proposed use of his resources subject to Committee approval and further discussion regarding the operational practicalities.

#### **6 CONCLUSION**

It is essential that enforcement on the basis of the car parking regulations continues in an effective way and the most cost-effective way of providing this service would be to employ the resources which already exist in Dundee City Council for use within Angus.

Dr Bob McLellan  
DIRECTOR OF ROADS

#### **NOTE**

No background papers as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above Report.

FDCN/PP  
15 February 2000  
car.park.reg.