

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Overview and Scrutiny Committee **DATE:** 3rd March 2015

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PART I **FOR COMMENT & DECISION**

TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKING TASK AND FINISH GROUP – FINAL REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **Purpose of Report**

For the Overview and Scrutiny Committee to review the final report and recommendations of the Town Centre Car Parking Task and Finish Group.

2. **Recommendations/Proposed Action**

That the Committee:

- a) Review the draft report of the Task and Finish Group; and
- b) Agree the recommendations included in the Task and Finish Group's report.

3. **Joint Slough Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

- **Economy and Skills**
- **Health and Wellbeing**
- **Housing**
- **Regeneration and Environment**
- **Safer Communities**

- 3.1 The issue of town centre car parking has an impact on a variety of the priorities above. By creating a more efficient parking system, there will be economic benefits to a) local employers as travel times to and from work are reduced and b) town centre businesses as visitors to Slough are encouraged to shop in the area. The redevelopment of Slough and the creation of new housing will also require a suitable parking system for residents, whilst improved facilities will discourage crime.

4. **Supporting Information**

- 4.1 The Task and Finish Group was agreed, with its terms of reference, on 11th November 2014. Since that time it has been working with officers to gather information and use these in the compilation of its final recommendations.
- 4.2 The Task and Finish Group met on 9th December 2014 for its main meeting. This meeting examined the areas outlined in the terms of reference, and the information gathered are included in the main body of the final report.
- 4.3 Whilst the quality of parking facilities were raised in the terms of reference, it became apparent during this meeting that the matter is being resolved. In particular, Slough Borough Council is using the Park Mark accreditation scheme to bring its facilities up to an improved level. Given this, the recommendations focus on the amount of parking spaces available and the possible use of alternative facilities rather than the quality of them.
- 4.4 Once the recommendations have been finalised, they will be sent to the relevant officers and committees for a response. This will be relayed back to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who will assume ownership of the recommendations once they have been agreed and the Task and Finish Group disbanded.

5. **Resource Implications**

- 5.1 The Task and Finish Group was supported by 1 FTE member of staff. This was accommodated within their existing terms and conditions.

6. **Conclusion**

- 6.1 This report is intended to provide the Committee with information and guidance on the work undertaken by the Task and Finish Group. As a result, members of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee are asked to read the report prior to the meeting to ensure that they are satisfied with the Group's recommendations and the reasoning behind them.

7. **Appendices Attached**

A - Draft report of the Town Centre Car Parking Task & Finish Group

8. **Background Papers**

A - Slough Borough Council parking strategy – consultation draft, January 2015