

Report to: **West Devon Hub Committee**

Date: **19 March 2019**

Title: **West Devon Parking Strategy Group**

Portfolio Area: **Environment Services (Cllr Robert Sampson)**

Wards Affected: **All**

Relevant Scrutiny Committee:

Urgent Decision: **N** Approval and clearance obtained: **Y**

Date next steps can be taken: **After Call In 27 March 2019**

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**Recommendations: That the Hub Committee RESOLVES:**

1. To recognise and commend the work of the Parking Strategy Group to date;
2. that the Parking Strategy Group, in its current format is not appointed to at the Annual Council Meeting on 21 May 2019 but that its work is included within the remit of future Place Based engagement groups; and
3. In the interim period that the aims of the strategy continue to be delivered in line with strategic aims and with appropriate engagement with individual community stakeholders.

**1. Executive summary**

- 1.1 This report considers the future of the Parking Strategy Group in order to ensure that appropriate place-based solutions can be offered to communities when considering the forward planning of our community services (including car parks) and town and village economies.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 The West Devon Parking Strategy Group was set up in September 2006 and was considered to be ground-breaking at that time. The group has evolved and developed. A list of achievements over the last five years is attached at Appendix A. The Council has previously won awards for its place based consideration of parking.

## 3. Outcomes/outputs

- 3.1 The Group consisted of stakeholders from communities with charged parking provision (Tavistock, Okehampton, Chagford and Hatherleigh) and acted as an advisory group. It was developed at a time when many Councils were facing criticism for the methodology behind increased fees and charges in relation to parking. Since its inception, the Group has made many recommendations to the Council, having considered how to achieve the best parking service possible for customers. Place based solutions which have been resolved and implemented, particularly in respect of parking tariffs, have proved successful in many cases and have allowed local areas to have stakeholder influence in designing tariffs.

## 4. Proposed Way Forward

- 4.1 In light of the new focus on town and community centre revitalisation, both from central government and locally, it is recognised that the Strategy Group aims will be delivered more effectively if they are intrinsically linked to each community's individual economy and sense of Place.
- 4.2 Focused work undertaken by officers and Members in neighbouring South Hams , working with individual communities, has shown positive results in local parking strategies and associated tariffs which benefit the aims and objectives of each community, whether that be higher footfall, increased or decreased time spent in each area or to support the economy. This model may be easily replicated in West Devon but, in addition, further developed so that all aspects of each community are considered as a package.

## 5. Implications

Implications	Relevant to proposals Y/N	Details and proposed measures to address
Legal/Governance		<p>The Council has power to provide off-street parking under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended).</p> <p>The Council has the power to deal with the provision, management and control of car parks.</p>

		The Council has the powers to provide this service under the General Powers of Competence in the Localism Act 2011.
Financial		Nil.
Risk		None at this stage.
Comprehensive Impact Assessment Implications		
Equality and Diversity		No implications.
Safeguarding		No implications.
Community Safety, Crime and Disorder		No potential positive or negative impact on crime and disorder reduction.  The potential of the new working model is for all elements of community need to be considered which would include designing out crime and anti-social behaviour.
Health, Safety and Wellbeing		No current implications, although suggested improvements as above.
Other implications		None.

### **Supporting Information**

### **Approval and clearance of report**

<b>Process checklist</b>	<b>Completed</b>
Portfolio Holder briefed	<b>Yes/No</b>
SLT Rep briefed	<b>Yes/No</b>
Relevant Exec Director sign off (draft)	<b>Yes/No</b>
Data protection issues considered	<b>Yes/No</b>
If exempt information, public (part 1) report also drafted. (Cabinet/Scrutiny)	<b>Yes/No</b>