

# ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Date:** 23 April 2013

**Subject:** Call-In and Urgency – Parking Schemes across the District to be implemented by the North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP)

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor G Waller (Safer, Greener and Highways)

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## **Recommending:**

**To note that the Chairman of the Council agreed that the decision of the Safer, Greener and Highways Portfolio Holder to agree that the nine highest scoring parking schemes across the District be nominated to the Traffic Regulation Order Sub-Committee of NEPP for implementation, should be treated as a matter of urgency and should not be subject to call-in.**

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1. The North Essex Parking Partnership (NEPP) has delegated authority from the Essex County Council (ECC) to make on street traffic regulation orders such as limited waiting (single yellow line), no waiting (double yellow line) and Resident Parking Zones.

2. NEPP has established a sub-committee to consider requests from member districts (Epping Forest, Harlow, Braintree, Uttlesford, Tendering and Colchester) for parking restrictions. The sub-committee met on 10 April to consider schemes put forward by each member authority. It is not yet known how many schemes will be implemented in each district.

3. NEPP has investigated 100 schemes across the six districts. These include twenty nine requests within this District. To achieve consistency and fairness NEPP has developed criteria to establish the priority of the submitted proposals. Every proposal is assessed using these criteria. The schemes across the District have been scored and ranked accordingly.

4. All the districts are using the NEPP assessment methodology although there are various internal approval mechanisms for nominating schemes. At present we have no such mechanism in place and it is proposed to seek Cabinet approval for nominating schemes before the next sub-committee meeting in August 2013.

5. In the meantime, in the absence of a local prioritisation system and in order not to lose the opportunity of implementing schemes within the District, the NEPP assessment criteria was used and the following nine highest scoring schemes were put forward for implementation, with the caveat that the final number of schemes implemented, in order of their score, will be subject to availability of funding at NEPP:

- (i) Roundhills, Waltham Abbey
- (ii) Centre Avenue / Centre Drive, Epping

- (iii) Roding Lane, Chigwell
- (iv) Oak Lodge Avenue / Warren Court / Mount Pleasant, Chigwell
- (v) Thomas Willingale Nursery, Loughton
- (vi) Honey Lane (Leverton School), Waltham Abbey
- (vii) River Road / Loughton Way / Buckhurst Way, Loughton
- (viii) Bower Vale, Epping
- (ix) Harwater Drive / Sedley Rise

6. Failure to submit schemes to NEPP by 10 April 2013 could have resulted in no schemes being implemented in this District.

7. Accordingly, the Chairman of the Council agreed, in accordance with Rule 21 of the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules, that the decision of the Portfolio Holder was reasonable in the circumstances, should be treated as a matter of urgency and should not be subject to call-in as any delay likely to be caused by the call-in process would have seriously prejudiced the Council's interests.