

## ***Report to the Council***

**Committee:** Cabinet

**Date:** 24 April 2007

**Subject:** Civil Engineering & Maintenance Portfolio **Item:** 6(c)

**Portfolio Holder:** Councillor A Green

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### **Recommendation:**

**That the report of the Portfolio Holder be noted.**

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### **Parking reviews**

The Epping, Buckhurst Hill and Loughton TCE traffic orders are all now in place. Work is proceeding with Essex County Council to implement the orders on the ground. It is currently proposed to commence with Epping and then move on to Buckhurst Hill, the latter being more complex and having engineering works associated with it (a mini-roundabout). Epping will commence in earnest after the May elections. Ahead of that time all residents and businesses will receive leaflets and other information on how the scheme will work, where permits etc can be purchased. We are looking at implementing the High Street Epping as soon as possible since this will provide much sought after parking for those who visit and use the town centre.

The preparatory work for the Waltham Abbey and wider Loughton reviews are underway, with inventory analyses and beat surveys. The area immediately around the Broadway has also been included in order to deal with the possible displacement effects of the TCE parking controls.

### **Car park tariffs**

The new tariffs are in place and operative from 1 April 2007. The exception is the Burton Road car park at The Broadway, where the TROs are yet to be advertised to implement them on the former free car park. Free Saturday car parking is also in place in the long and mixed stay car parks. As requested by members, once the 'settling in' period has passed, the use will be monitored.

### **Sponsored roundabouts**

This process was unfortunately delayed because the County Council needed to revisit the arrangements to ensure consistency of approach so that road safety was not compromised. The final version of the agreement is awaited, and then the County Council's appointed consultants can commence the task of seeking sponsors for roundabouts within the district.

### **Local highways service agreement (LSA)**

The County Portfolio Holder has circulated the latest version with a request that it be signed by the Leader of Council. There is however some concern in the Essex District regarding the LSA given the delay between its original formulation and now, and indeed whether to LSA should be entered into. This matter will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting in June.

### **Parking enforcement contract**

The procurement is proceeding well. This is an EU driven procurement process, so will follow the same procedures as for the waste management contract. Pre-qualification questionnaires have been issued and returned, and I have, through a Portfolio Holder decision, agreed the select of tenderers who will be invited to submit tender proposals. Tenders were sent out on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April with a return date of the 25<sup>th</sup> of May. The new enforcement contract is scheduled to commence on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2007.