

ANNUAL PARKING AND ENFORCEMENT REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 2020/21

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The information contained in this report is in accordance with section 55 of the Road Traffic Act 1984 as amended by Traffic Management Act 2004.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The District Council operates over 50 car parks with over 6000 spaces. These are managed under the regulations set out in the 'District of New Forest (Off Street Parking Places) Order 2005'. A copy of the Order, car park locations and charges can be found on the Council's web site (www.newforest.gov.uk/parking).
- 2.2 The District covers an area of approximately 290 square miles with a resident population of 173,000. We now have an estimated 15 million visitors annually and a high percentage of these visitors will make use of the Council's pay and display car parks during their visits. Hampshire County Council is responsible for the enforcement of on-street Traffic Regulation Orders. This includes enforcement of single and double yellow lines, limited waiting bays, loading bays, motor-cycle bays, taxi ranks, bus stop clearways, pedestrian crossings and on-street disabled bays.

3. PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE INFORMATION

- 3.1 Penalty Charge/Warning Notices issued for financial years 2019/20 and 2020/21

	2019/20	2020/21
Number PCNs issued at higher level	2959	164
Number PCNs issued at lower level	7761	6692
Number PCNs paid	8397	5020
Number PCNs paid at discounted rate	7186	4492
Number PCNs against which informal challenge received	2947	2146
Number cancelled as result of informal challenge	485	1290
Number against which a formal representation has been received	326	160
Number cancelled as result formal representation	94	72
Number cancelled for other reasons (e.g. driver untraceable) -	426	181
Number Warning Notices issued	2663	1615

4. ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNT

4.1

	2019/20			2020/21	
	<i>On street</i>	<i>Off street</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>Off Street</i>	<i>total</i>
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
INCOME					
Penalty Charge Notices	83	206	289	144	144
Residents Parking Permits	2	0	2	0	0
Dispensations	9	0	9	4	4
Total Income	94	206	300	148	148
EXPENDITURE					
Employee Costs	212	250	462	347	347
Supplies and Services	5	15	20	22	22
Support services	37	18	55	20	20
Total Expenditure	254	283	537	389	389
(Surplus)/Deficit	160	77	237	241	241

5. THE TRAFFIC PENALTY TRIBUNAL (TPT)

5.1 The Traffic Penalty Tribunal provides an independent judicial process for the hearing of appeals against the issue of Penalty Charge Notices. In this financial year 1 appeal was lodged relating to a PCN issued by New Forest District Council. This resulted in:

- 1 appeal dismissed

Further information concerning TPT can be found on their web site www.trafficpenaltytribunal.gov.uk.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The number of PCNs issued in 2020/21 was less than the previous year. This was partially due to the change in patrol patterns in advance of the termination of the agency agreement and the impact of the Covid-19 global pandemic on people working from home and people following government guidance to stay at home.
- 6.2 There has been an adjustment to the split of employee costs to other services the enforcement team supply which overall means with the reduction in the number of PCN's issued off-street that the overall deficit in the enforcement account remains similar to the previous year. With Covid restrictions now easing it is anticipated that this deficit will reduce in the following year.
- 6.3 63% of all challenges and representations received resulted in Penalty Charge Notices (PCN's) being cancelled. This number was significantly higher due to the impact of Covid on people's ability to return to their parked vehicles due to the need to self-isolate and hospital admissions.