

Title of meeting: Cabinet Member for Transport Decision Meeting

Date of meeting: 14th September 2023

Subject: Draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy - Permission to Consult

Report by: Kerri Farnsworth, Interim Director of Regeneration

Report Author: Kirsty Routledge, Principal Transport Planner

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to commence consultation on the draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy objectives and policies (Appendix A) with stakeholder and the wider public.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Transport:

- 2.1 Approves the content of the draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy objectives and policies for public and stakeholder consultation.**

3. Background

- 3.1 The draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy is a daughter strategy of the Portsmouth Transport Strategy¹ (Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4)) which was adopted by Full Council in October 2021. It is a statutory requirement for each Local Transport Authority to have a Local Transport Plan in place, with LTP4 comprising of two parts, the strategy and supporting implementation plan. The Portsmouth Parking

¹ Local Transport Plan 4 <https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/parking-roads-and-travel/travel/local-transport-plan-4-ltp4/>



Strategy is outlined for delivery in the first year of the LTP4 Implementation Plan².

- 3.2 The draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy is an integral strategy document to support delivery of both the Portsmouth Transport Strategy and the Portsmouth Local Plan, and development of a new Parking Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). An early draft of the Parking SPD has been prepared with close collaboration between the transport and planning departments and this will be programmed to follow on from Parking Strategy. It will apply the direction set by the Parking Strategy, to continue the joined-up approach between planning and transport.
- 3.3 The Parking Strategy will support wider council work streams through supporting high profile Portsmouth City Council (PCC) projects and corporate and transport priorities. Key schemes and projects that will be supported by this strategy include City Centre Regeneration, South-East Hampshire Rapid Transit, Bus Service Improvement Plan (of which a Parking Strategy was a requirement), Portsmouth Transport Hub, the Class B charging Clean Air Zone, and it will also help to support improvements to air quality and carbon reduction. The Parking Strategy will also support external funding bids.
- 3.4 Parking is a key issue in Portsmouth. The city is one of the most densely populated urban areas in the UK outside of London, with a population of approximately 217,000 that is expected to grow to 236,000 by 2041. The unique geography and history of Portsmouth has resulted in the high density of local roads and terraced housing in the city, which exacerbate local parking pressures. Additionally, there are over 8,000 business located in the city and Portsmouth receives 9.3 million visitors a year, contributing to parking needs.
- 3.5 The Portsmouth Transport Strategy (LTP4) includes four strategic objectives of:
- Deliver cleaner air
 - Prioritise walking and cycling
 - Transform public transport
 - Support business and protect our assets
- 3.6 The Parking Strategy will primarily support the key strategic objective of 'Deliver cleaner air', supporting improvements to air quality and carbon reduction. A climate emergency was declared by PCC in March 2019, with an ambitious target being set to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2030. The draft Parking Strategy includes measures to encourage sustainable travel options, particularly in areas of high parking congestion, seeking to make parking easier through encouraging fewer vehicles.
- 3.7 To meet transport strategy objectives, residents are increasingly being provided with a number of improved and alternative travel options, which should help

² [Portsmouth Transport Strategy 2021-2036](#)



reduce the congestion found on local streets and in parking areas. These options include:

- Better public transport - through initiatives such as South-East Hampshire Rapid Transit network, enhanced Park and Ride options, and the investments arising from the Bus Service Improvement Plan. Please note, in due course the council's aspirations to improve public transport will be brought forward in a public transport strategy
- More and safer active travel options such as walking, cycling and scootering improvements, along with improvements to cycle parking through the introduction of bike hangars, which are on-street, secure lockable pods that can accommodate between four and six cycles, and cycling corrals providing on-street cycle parking.
- Enhanced shared and hire transport alternatives, including rental e-scooters, bikes and e-bikes and the forthcoming car club.
- Improvements to smart technology, providing people with information on the transport network through variable message signing (VMS) and real time information.

3.8 In delivering the council's ambition to encourage residents to use their cars less within the city and to gradually move to increased walking, cycling and using public transport, it will mean some people will leave their cars at home more often. The council will need to support this mode shift through enabling residents to be able to park near their homes in residential areas whilst promoting the use of alternative modes for short trips.

4. Consultation

4.1 During the development of the draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy, close working across PCC directorates, such as public health, planning, culture and leisure, housing, business development and licensing has been fundamental, and a cross-departmental internal officer working group has helped to shape the draft objectives and policies.

4.2 Following the development of the draft objectives and policies, six workshop sessions were held between July 11th and July 19th 2023, to obtain feedback on the draft objectives and policies. Three workshop sessions were held with PCC Members and three workshop sessions were held with key external stakeholders from a range of organisations. In total 12 Members took part, including 11 external stakeholders.

4.3 Useful feedback was received during these workshops, and amendments were made to the draft objectives and policies following the sessions. The comments



received have been used to help further shape the final draft objectives and policies for the Portsmouth Parking Strategy (Appendix A).

- 4.4 If the recommendations of this report are approved by the Cabinet Member for Transport, a six-week public consultation will be undertaken on a designed version of the draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy objectives and policies (Appendix A). This consultation is proposed to be undertaken in September/October 2023.

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy objectives and policies will be designed by the PCC Design Team ahead of being taken to public consultation.
- 5.2 It is proposed that a six-week public consultation be undertaken in September/October 2023.
- 5.3 A detailed communications plan is being finalised to promote the parking strategy consultation. A range of channels will be used to raise awareness of the consultation including media (local newspapers and radio); social media (several types); the Travel Portsmouth web page; the resident panel (Your City, Your Say) e-bulletins (various); and the use of materials such as posters, display boards, banners, and flyers.
- 5.4 The consultation will be mostly online. However, there will be larger drop-in events, with transport staff in attendance, in the north and south of the city, with a third location in mid Portsmouth also being investigated. There will also smaller 'pop-up' events in venues around the city - libraries, local shopping centres, sports centres community centres, etc. - attended by communication and engagement staff.
- 5.5 These events will be well publicised. The staff on hand at all venues will ensure those who wish to participate in the consultation but, for whatever reason cannot fill in a digital survey, have the opportunity to respond to the consultation.
- 5.6 Following public consultation, the results will be analysed, and the draft strategy will be amended to reflect feedback received, before being brought back to a decision meeting for approval to adopt.
- 5.7 Please note that the initiatives outlined in the Portsmouth Parking Strategy will be brought forward separately with the appropriate engagement, consultation and approvals being undertaken before they are implemented.

6. Reasons for recommendations



6.1 The Portsmouth Parking Strategy is being brought forward to support delivery of the Portsmouth Transport Strategy (LTP4) and has been identified as a key priority, being the first daughter strategy of LTP4 to be developed.

6.2 As part of any policy or strategy development, Portsmouth City Council undertakes a public consultation to obtain the views of residents, visitors and businesses. As outlined in section 5 of this report, the consultation responses will be analysed, and an updated strategy will be presented to a decision meeting.

7. Integrated impact assessment (IIA)

7.1 An IIA has been undertaken, and is attached as Appendix B

8. Legal implications

8.1 As set out in the body of the report, the draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy is being developed in accordance with the aims and objectives of the City Council's adopted statutory Local Transport Plan (LTP4) and its development is provided for in the Implementation Plan which forms part of that plan.

8.2 The LTP 4 Implementation Plan specifically provides for the undertaking of stakeholder and wider public consultation on the further development of individual policies and strategies forming part of the plan and the recommendation in this report fulfils that commitment.

9. Director of Finance's comments

9.1 The development, consultation and adoption of the strategy will be funded from the Bus Service Improvement Plan. This budget is funded entirely by external grant awarded by the Department of Transport.

9.2 Any specific initiatives considered following adoption of the strategy will be subjected to a financial appraisal as part of the process of engagement and consultation.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

Appendix A - Draft Portsmouth Parking Strategy

Appendix B - IIA

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

| Title of document | Location |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Portsmouth Transport Strategy (LTP4) | https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/services/parking-roads-and-travel/travel/local-transport-plan-4-ltp4/ |
| LTP4 Implementation Plan | Portsmouth Transport Strategy 2021-2036 |

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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Signed by: