



HERTFORD TOWN COUNCIL

MONDAY 10 JULY 2017

ADDENDUM TO TOWN COUNCIL AGENDA

1. DRAFT EAST HERTS PHYSICAL ACTIVITY STRATEGY 2017 – 2022

To comment on the attached Strategy. Responses required by 19 July 2017.- **PAPER E** Page 1

2. EAST HERTS COUNCIL – PARKING ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES

East Herts Council is in the early stages of their process to re-tender for provision of Parking Enforcement Service. East Herts Council has invited comments on Parking Enforcement priorities. - **PAPER F** Page 7

Joseph Whelan
Town Clerk

Dated: 6 July 2017

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Draft East Herts Physical Activity Strategy 2017 -2022





Councillor Linda Haysey Leader of the Council

At East Herts Council we are committed to improving the health and wellbeing of our community, and we recognise that physical activity is key to achieving this. We would like every member of our community to have the opportunity to participate in physical activity, whether this is walking in our parks and open spaces, cycling to work, playing sport or simply going to the gym.

East Herts has a thriving scene of voluntary sports clubs that cater for thousands of members of all ages, offering activities as diverse as archery and kayaking to more traditional sports like football, cricket and hockey. In addition, there are many community groups and committed volunteers offering low impact physical activity sessions such as group walks and exercise classes.

Taking part in physical activity can help our residents to become healthier, manage physical and mental conditions, reduce body weight, build strength, improve performance of heart and lungs and lead longer, healthier lives. We recognise the importance and the value of physical activity and want to encourage even more residents to do more. This document sets out the initial plans to help us achieve this goal. We will work with organisations that share our interest in physical activity such as clubs, schools, health organisations, and private providers. Where appropriate we will also encourage the provision of facilities such as sports halls, swimming pools, pitches, tennis courts and play areas and, where possible, we will provide these activities directly to encourage and enable people to be more active, more often.

Linda Haysey

Background: Our District

East Herts has approximately 145,000 residents and 20.5% of these people say they are currently physically inactive ⁽¹⁾. People who are inactive have a much higher risk of long term health conditions, including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis and some cancers. In addition they are more likely to suffer from depression, loneliness and dementia.

The average age of an East Herts resident is marginally over 40, which is slightly above the average age of England at 39.6 but lower than that of East England. The ageing population in East Herts very much mirrors patterns found across England. The rural nature of the District, coupled with an aging population, may cause bigger problems than those found in other, more urban, districts, with social isolation likely to be an issue. Car usage is also very high in the District.

The key health statistics for East Herts are as follows:

- Excess weight in children (reception) 18.4%
- Excess weight in children (Year 6) 23.9%
- Excess weight in adults 63.6%
- Physically active adults 64.5%
- Physically inactive adults 20.5%
- 4.9% of recorded cases of diabetes (17yrs +)
- 3433 (per 100,000) injuries due to falls for 80yrs+ (males)
- 5981 (per 100,000) injuries due to falls for 80yrs+ (females)

Physical activity is essential for overall health and well-being. It benefits both mental and physical health directly and indirectly. It also positively impacts mental health, stress, depression, excess weight, community cohesion and promotes a positive outlook on life.

Adults in England should aim to take part in at least 150 minutes of moderate intensity physical activity each week, in bouts of 10 minutes or more, according to physical activity guidelines for adults from the UK Chief Medical Officers.

Physical Activity can include some or all of the following activities.

Physical Activity			
Active Living	Active Travel	Active Recreation	Active Sport
Gardening	Walking	Exercise	Organised participation
Walking	Cycling	Dance	Structured competitive activity
Chair based activities	Jogging	Gym	Informal sport
Housework		Swimming	Swimming
		Active play	

Our Vision

Everyone in East Herts will have the opportunity to take part in physical activity through work, travel or participation in sport and leisure activities.

Our objectives:

To work with partners to ensure appropriate and accessible physical activity provision and information is available for:

- a) children and young people, to support the reduction in excess weight and promote physical activity as part of a healthy lifestyle
- b) adults and older people, to achieve a year-on-year increase in adult participation in physical activity from 2017 – 2022*
- c) adults and older people, to achieve a year-on-year reduction in the number of adults who are inactive from 2017 – 2022*

*measured via Sport England Active Lives Survey

Our Journey:

Research carried out in East Herts in 2016 is encouraging. 51% of people surveyed indicated that they would like to be more physically active. However, they also identified key barriers, with 'not enough time' being the most significant factor at 47% ⁽¹⁾.

In order to support our residents in becoming more active and benefitting from becoming physically active, we need to take a whole system approach to physical activity, which requires working in partnership with key stakeholders. The development of leisure centres alone will not create an environment that all sectors of our community wish to participate in. A whole system approach recognises that it is everybody's responsibility to encourage participation in physical activity, not just those who work within the industry of leisure and sport.

The key strategic themes that will drive the Council's approach to increasing physical activity are outlined below:

- **Active Living**, encouraging residents to build physical activity into their everyday lives
- **Active Travel**, influencing infrastructure plans to make active travel an easy and convenient option for residents
- **Active Recreation**, investing in leisure facilities, parks and open spaces to provide residents with a range of affordable leisure opportunities across the District
- **Active Sport**, providing a facilitation role to local sports clubs and voluntary organisations to support their health and wellbeing offer to the community.

The Council recognises that there are a number of organisations, facilities and committed volunteers delivering a vast range of sport and physical activity schemes, and intends to support and build upon those successes, in collaboration with stakeholders, to ensure the health and wellbeing of all members of our community is improved.

In developing its action plan the Council will complement the work of national, regional and local organisations including:

- Public Health England – Everybody Active Every Day
- Department of Culture Media and Sport – Sporting Future: A New Strategy for an Active Nation
- Sport England – Towards an Active Nation
- Hertfordshire County Council – Physical Activity and Sports Framework

(1) EHC & EA Community Research Survey (May 2016) information gathered from a representative sample of 899 respondents

A detailed action plan will be produced following consultation and contributions from partners, and this will be reviewed annually. A summary of the key actions to drive the strategy are highlighted below:

Theme	Key actions
Active Living	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting national and regional campaigns promoting physical activity - Exploring social prescribing for physical activity - Member champions for physical activity/health and well being
Active Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Actions to be agreed through sustainable travel work - Actively influence partners and developers to think creatively about opportunities to encourage physical activity in terms of travel i.e. footpaths, cycle lanes - Development of a cycle hub
Active Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Delivery of new leisure contract, reflecting health and wellbeing needs of the community - Develop circular walks in our parks and open spaces - Enhance our parks offer to improve our children's play areas, teen action zones and trim trails - Explore opportunities to sustain successes of the Forever Active programme
Active Sport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Commit investment where funds are available (e.g Section 106) to develop the infrastructure of sports facilities and open spaces to meet the needs of a growing population as identified in the indoor and outdoor sports spaces assessment. - Work with partners across the County to seek external funding via Sport England / Herts Sports Partnership

This is not an exhaustive list, the action plan will be a working document evolving to reflect local needs.

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REPORT TO THE TOWN COUNCIL – 10 JULY 2017

ADDENDUM ITEM 2 EAST HERTS COUNCIL – PARKING ENFORCEMENT PRIORITIES

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To provide the Council with the opportunity to comment on the parking enforcement priorities.

2. INTRODUCTION

East Herts Council is re-tendering for the provision of parking enforcement services.

East Herts Council has established a Scrutiny Task and Finish Group to examine the Council's parking enforcement priorities for the duration of that new contract (up to seven years).

The key milestones for the re-tendering process are:

- Scrutiny Report 17 July 2017
- Final Scrutiny report September 2017
- The Specification for the new contract Feb 2018
- Commencement of new contract January 2019

The Council has been invited to provide comments to the East Herts Scrutiny Task and Finish Group. A similar invitation has been sent to Ware Town Council, Sawbridgeworth Town Council, Bishops Stortford Town Council and Buntingford Town Council.

The invitation was received on 27th June.

An East Herts Council officer has advised that the views of the Town Council will be sought during the remaining stages of the work.

3. INFORMATION

The information provided at the time of the request for comments is in the form of the following questions:

- Should we place greater emphasis on enforcement of the evening economy?
- Do areas around schools need greater enforcement attention?
- What attention should be given to on-street enforcement versus car park enforcement?
- Would ANPR equipped vehicles be an appropriate enforcement tool, albeit in the limited circumstances permitted in law?
- Should the Council accept requests for enforcement from members of the public and if so, under what circumstances.

The East Herts Scrutiny Task and Finish Group is not examining enforcement specifics such as whether a particular road needs a yellow line or a particular area needs a resident permit scheme.

4. **COMMENTS**

The deadline for the receipt of comments was 5th July 2017. To meet this requirement the Town Clerk submitted informal comments that took the form of some general comments on parking enforcement and responses to the questions posed (and noted in Section 3. above). The response noted that the comments submitted would be reviewed at a formal meeting of the Council. The response also made a request for as much time as possible to be given for responses to be made to this important area of work as the work progresses. This time is needed to ensure that normal Town Council processes are followed.

The comments on parking enforcement priorities are included as Appendix 1. Council is asked to note that there are requests for additional information that will help the Council understand the broader implications of the setting of parking enforcement priorities.

5. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is **recommended** that the Council:

- a) **considers** its response to the request for comment on parking enforcement priorities;
- b) **endorses** the comments attached at Appendix 1 subject to any additional comments that Council wishes to add; and
- c) **notes** the report

Report by: Joseph Whelan, Town Clerk

General Comments

It is not clear from the questions asked whether changing emphasis to enforce particular situations or locations will lead to less resource/time being spent on all other parking enforcement activities. Clarification of this point is requested and will help the Council formulate its formal response.

It would also be helpful to know the level of contact/complaints received/suggestions made by that residents and businesses of Hertford to East Herts Parking services and their enforcement agents. Again, this will help the Council formulate its formal response.

Lastly, data relating to off-street car parking capacity and turnover of the use of that space would be helpful as this will help the Council to understand the nature of existing parking problems that may require addressing in Hertford in line with the questions that have been asked.

The Council reserves its position to change any of the following comments once the data and information requested above has been received and discussion by Councillors has been possible, but these points are made on the basis of known anecdotal comments and previous information.

Questions Posed

Should we place greater emphasis on enforcement of the evening economy?

For on street parking enforcement, it is important to maintain car access to the Hertford town centre; in the absence of data it is difficult to provide comments on off-street parking enforcement.

Do areas around schools need greater enforcement attention?

Yes, this is an area of concern that has been repeatedly raised in Hertford, with serious safety concerns in relation to some schools. Greater enforcement attention would be welcome, and detailed discussions should be taking place between individual schools and East Herts Council to ensure appropriate action is taken for particular schools.

What attention should be given to on-street enforcement versus car park enforcement?

This is difficult to answer in the absence of the information requested above. It is also unclear as to whether the question relates to town centre on-street parking or residential areas.

Would ANPR equipped vehicles be an appropriate enforcement tool, albeit in the limited circumstances permitted in law?

Yes if they assist in effective parking enforcement and are operated strictly within legislation and regulations.

Should the Council accept requests for enforcement from members of the public and if so, under what circumstances?

Yes where local problems are identified by residents and businesses and enforcement action can resolve these issues.

Hertford Town Council would welcome the opportunity to engage in more detail on this matter, once more information is made available.