



Leicester  
City Council

Minutes of the Meeting of the  
LEISURE AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
(HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION STREAM)

Held: WEDNESDAY, 2 MARCH 2005 at 5.30pm

P R E S E N T :

Councillor Thompson – (Chair – Highways and Transportation Stream)  
Councillor Panchbhaya – Liberal Democrat Spokesperson  
Councillor Wann – Labour Spokesperson

Councillor Allen  
Councillor Hall

Councillor Ramsdale  
Councillor Tessier

Also in Attendance

**Councillor Kitterick – Cabinet Member for Transport**

**69. ON-STREET PARKING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE 2005/06**

The Service Director, Highways and Transportation, submitted a report which contained proposals for spending the surplus income generated by the on-street parking scheme in order to improve transport in the City.

It was noted that paragraph 2.1 of the report should be amended to read "Use of the remainder, around £1.1 million a year, is restricted to expenditure on highways and transportation services **and for the purpose of environmental improvement in the Local Authority's Area** and is variously spent on off-street public parking, bus services, and a contribution to the cost of the employment of staff in the Highways and Transportation Section, employed in various capacities to help improve bus services and the highway".

A Member expressed concern that with the planned transfer of parking enforcement from the Police to Local Authorities in 2007, it was important to ensure that the Police maintained active responsibility until that time. He felt this was particularly important in the vicinity of the football and rugby clubs in order to reduce disruption to residents and businesses. In response, Members were informed that discussions had been held with the Police and the need for targeted action in problem areas had been raised. It was hoped that they would use their resources to address these problems and to avoid a 'free-for-all' culture.

A Member asked if there had been a change in the amount of traffic travelling

into the City Centre since the implementation of on-street parking charges. Officers stated that the number of customers was stable and that the number of fines issued had reduced since the start of on-street parking charges.

A member of the Committee expressed concern that the original idea when on-street parking charges were introduced was to fund residents' parking schemes and the policing of them, however more money appeared to be spent on funding the two principal bus operators in Leicester. In response it was noted that money wasn't just given to the two principal bus operators, but instead used to fund services that these operators deemed not commercially viable.

It was stated that, due to the importance of having accurate information and timetables at bus stops, a database had been set up and a full-time member of staff, funded jointly by the City Council and the two principal bus operators, had been employed to ensure the information at bus stops was correct.

**RESOLVED:**

- 1) That Cabinet be recommended to take the above comments into consideration;
- 2) That the report be noted.