

ANNUAL PARKING ENFORCEMENT REPORT for the period 2016/17

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 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 Hampshire County Council have appointed New Forest District Council as it's agent 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 disabled bays. The District covers an area of approximately 290 square miles with a resident population of 173,000. We have an estimated 13.5 million visitors annually and a high percentage of these visitors will make use of the councils pay and display car parks during their visits.

3. PENALTY CHARGE NOTICE INFORMATION

- 3.1 Penalty Charge/Warning Notices issued for financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17

	2015/16	2016/17
Number PCNs issued at higher level	1959	2437
Number PCNs issued at lower level	4983	7550
Number PCNs paid	5399	7594
Number PCNs paid at discounted rate	4740	6624
Number PCNs against which informal challenge received	1850	2629
Number cancelled as result of informal challenge	852	1398
Number against which a formal representation has been received	275	266
Number cancelled as result formal representation	70	152
Number cancelled for other reasons (e.g. driver untraceable) -	247**	190
Number Warning Notices issued	2534	3196

** Some of these refer to written off enforcement cases going back to 2013/14

4. ENFORCEMENT ACCOUNT

4.1

INCOME	2015/16			2016/17		
	<i>on street</i>	<i>off street</i>	<i>total</i>	<i>on street</i>	<i>off street</i>	<i>total</i>
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Penalty Charge Notices	89	102	191	95	161	256
Residents Parking	6	0	6	6	0	6
Dispensations	2	0	2	5	0	5
Total Income	97	102	199	106	161	267
EXPENDITURE						
Employee Costs	136	201	337	142	219	361
Supplies and Services	8	7	15	9	8	17
Support services	22	7	29	21	8	29
Capital Financing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Expenditure	166	215	381	172	235	407
(Surplus)/Deficit	69	113	182	66	74	140

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 (2016/17) 5 appeals were lodged relating to PCNs issued by New Forest District Council. These resulted in;

- 1 appeal being allowed
- 1 not contested
- 3 appeals 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 2016/17 was 43% more than the previous year due in the main to a more visible enforcement presence in the car parks and on-street. Although this increase of 43% is disappointing, longer term we are confident that PCN's will reduce as the improved enforcement presence is recognised by motorists. This more visible enforcement presence has enabled neighbourhood parking issues to be addressed through education and enforcement with a subsequent reduction in complaints.