



**AGENDA ITEM 10**

**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD**

**17 NOVEMBER 2009**

**INTERIM REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION  
AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL -  
MATCHDAY PARKING**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To present an update in respect of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel's review of Matchday Parking.

**SUMMARY**

2. The overall aim of the Scrutiny investigation was to consider the extent of the affect of matchday parking on the town centre and other areas and to investigate potential solutions to any problems identified. The panel initially met between April and June 2009 to examine this topic and again in October 2009 to receive updated information.
3. The purpose of this report is to update the Overview and Scrutiny Board on the current position in respect of this review, namely that the scrutiny panel has noted work undertaken in this area to date and wishes to review the position further at the end of the current football season. In the meantime, Council Officers and the police have been asked to continue to gather information and monitor the position.

**RECOMMENDATION**

4. The Overview and Scrutiny Board is requested to note the current position in respect of the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel's review of Matchday Parking.

**BACKGROUND AND FURTHER INFORMATION**

5. The terms of reference of the scrutiny investigation were agreed as follows:

- a) To examine the extent of the problem and the areas most affected.
  - b) To examine what work has been undertaken to try and solve the problem.
  - c) To discuss what possible solutions could be used to rectify the situation and then to analyse the costs and benefits of those possible solutions.
6. Between April and June 2009, the scrutiny panel considered detailed information from Council Officers and representatives of Middlesbrough Football Club, Cleveland Police and the University of Teesside. This related to work undertaken by all parties to identify problem areas and solutions. This included:
- Information regarding the number of additional vehicles generated by Middlesbrough Football club home games.
  - Parking options available.
  - Responsibilities of the Council and the police regarding general traffic management and parking enforcement.
  - Traffic monitoring and surveys.
  - Middlesbrough Football Club's involvement in examining the possible introduction of a park and ride scheme and in compiling information on where fans travel from, where they park. The club has also promoted car sharing.
7. The scrutiny panel's initial work was undertaken after the end of the 2008-09 football season. Consequently, in June 2009, it was agreed that the panel's investigation should be placed on hold to allow detailed surveys of the main problem areas to be undertaken once the current football season began - ie in August 2009. Accordingly, Council Officers and the police monitored the position from August 2009 before reporting back to the scrutiny panel on 19 October 2009.
8. Detailed results of the monitoring work that had been undertaken were submitted to the panel. A number of residential streets in close proximity to the football stadium had been surveyed at 11.00am and 3.15pm on Saturday matchdays, with the main findings from the exercise being highlighted as follows:
- a) Streets generally had parking spaces available during the morning but became fully parked by the time of the afternoon inspection.
  - b) No dangerous or obstructive parking was observed and no penalty notices had been issued.
  - c) Traffic flow was maintained and no major road safety issues relating to pedestrians or other road users were observed.
  - d) Where residential streets are used, inconvenience for residents lasts for no more than three hours.
  - e) A large proportion of parking now takes place in the Middlehaven area, for example around Middlesbrough College. This is likely to increase once the new access to the area from Newport roundabout is opened. This improved access/egress should reduce the number of vehicles parking in residential areas of the town.
9. The scrutiny panel was advised that a major factor influencing current levels of matchday parking - and consequently the associated issues outlined above - had been Middlesbrough's relegation from the Premier League in May 2009. This has resulted in attendances being reduced from around 27,000-30,000 in 2008/09 to 17,000-24,000 at the present time.

10. Having considered the updated position, the scrutiny panel agreed as follows:
  - (a). To note the information submitted to date.
  - (b). To request Council Officers and the police to continue to monitor the position and gather information.
  - (c). To consider the position further at the end of the 2009 -10 football season, when an update would also be sought on Middlesbrough Football Club's promotion of car sharing and the development of a park and ride scheme.
11. A final report on this topic, which will detail the Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel's findings in full, will be submitted to the Overview and Scrutiny Board in due course.

**COUNCILLOR JOHN COLE**

**CHAIR OF THE ECONOMIC REGENERATION  
AND TRANSPORT SCRUTINY PANEL**

5 November 2009

**BACKGROUND PAPERS**

The following background papers were consulted or referred to in the preparation of this report: Agenda, reports and minutes of Economic Regeneration and Transport Scrutiny Panel meetings - 24 April, 29 April, 11 June and 19 October 2009.

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