

**Social Care and Adult Services SCRUTINY PANEL
Blue Badge Parking Scheme – ACTION PLAN**

22 JUNE 2010

SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATION	PROPOSED ACTION	BY WHOM	BUDGET COST	TIMESCALE
<p>1. That more publicity is needed to ensure that residents and particularly family members and friends of blue badge holders are fully aware of the rules of using a blue badge as well as the negative impact misuse by able-bodied people has on genuine blue badge holders. In addition the rules of the scheme need to be highlighted via posters / adverts at Council operated on and off street disabled parking bays across the town.</p>	<p>Guidance on the use and rules relating to Blue Badges to be issued with every new and renewed blue badge. Guidance also issued as a reminder to every blue badge holder who receives a Penalty Charge Notice for incorrect use of the badge.</p>	<p>Social Care & Parking Solutions</p>	<p>Existing budgets</p>	<p>In place</p>
	<p>Links to Blue Badge guidance and advice added to Blue Badge section of Council website .</p>	<p>Social Care & Parking Solutions</p>	<p>Existing budgets</p>	<p>In place</p>
	<p>Suitable posters/adverts to be produced and displayed in car parks to highlight problems caused by blue badge misuse.</p>	<p>Social Care & Parking Solutions</p>	<p>To be identified</p>	<p>August 2010 subject to funding being identified</p>
<p>2. That an annual programme of ‘mini blitz’ enforcement exercises which focus on preventing the misuse and fraudulent use of blue badges be undertaken and the findings be reported to the Panel.</p>	<p>Regular enforcement campaigns on blue badge misuse in Council car parks and on street introduced on the basis of advise and educate then enforce.</p>	<p>Parking Solutions</p>	<p>Existing budgets</p>	<p>In place</p>

<p>3. That an online reporting mechanism for members of the public to report suspected cases of misuse of a blue badge be developed to further enable incidents of misuse / fraudulent use of blue badges within the town to be detected.</p>	<p>Blue Badge misuse reporting facility to be introduced onto Council website.</p>	<p>Social Care & Parking Solutions</p>	<p>Existing Budgets</p>	<p>June 2010</p>
<p>4. That in line with the Government's Comprehensive Blue Badge Reform Strategy the Council undertakes a joint piece of work with the PCT to examine the way in which medical assessments for blue badge applicants are currently commissioned. This would be with a view to developing and implementing a move to independent assessments.</p>	<p>A review of the Blue Badge process has commenced in Social Care. This will take into account the way in which medical assessments are currently commissioned, with a view to seeking more independent assessments.</p>	<p>Social Care</p>	<p>Existing Budgets</p>	<p>August 2010</p>
<p>5. That the Council aspires to develop a service in line with the best practice identified at the nationally recognised Centres of Excellence.</p>	<p>The best practise methods adopted by the Centres of Excellence will be utilised as necessary to maintain a reasonable and proportionate enforcement policy in the town.</p>	<p>Parking Solutions & Social Care</p>	<p>Existing Budgets</p>	<p>On going.</p>