

Title of Report: **Matters Arising from previous meeting of the Resource Management Working Group**

Report to be considered by: Resource Management Working Group

Date of Meeting: 27 September 2011

Purpose of Report: To receive an update on matters arising from the previous Resource Management Working Group.

Recommended Action: To note the update.

Key background documentation: Minutes of the Resource Management Working Group held on 26 July 2011.

Resource Management Working Group Chairman	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Tony Vickers – Tel (01635) 230046
E-mail Address:	tvickers@westberks.gov.uk
Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Rob Alexander
Job Title:	Policy Officer (Scrutiny & Civil Contingencies)
Tel. No.:	01635 503042
E-mail Address:	ralexander@westberks.gov.uk

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides the information requested at the previous meeting of the Resource Management Working Group. The full details are contained within the minutes from last time.

2. Item 3 – Actions from previous Minutes

Economic Downturn Provision

- 2.1 It was queried when the economic downturn provision was not going to full fund staff redundancies.
- 2.2 Joseph Holmes responded that: *“In January I was certainly hopeful that the EDP (Economic Downturn Provision) would be broadly sufficient to cover over exit costs. However, by later in the process into February and March it was clear that it wouldn't be sufficient. For the 2011-12 financial year the Council has been successful in an application for capitalising statutory redundancy costs up to £1.4m.”*

Car Park Budgets

- 2.3 Clarity was sought on a number of points raised in the car park budgets section. The following information is the response from Mark Edwards, Head of Highways and Transport.
- (1) The number of season tickets issued were; 181 Annually, 12 Half-Annually and 48 Quarterly.
 - (2) A total of 625 Charge Certificates were issued.
 - (3) In response to a question related to higher and lower contraventions and potential missing monies, Mark Edwards supplied the following information: “In 2009/10 a total of 10,929 PCNs were issued and of this total 4,358 were at the higher level with a full value of £70 = £305,060; and 6,571 were at the lower level with a full value of £50 = £328,550. However, where payment was made within 14 days the value reduced by 50% to £25.00 and £35.00 respectively. The combined full value of the PCNs issued was £633,310. However we did not receive this face value amount because some payments were at 50% (paid within 14 days), some were at full value and some were at the surcharge rate of 150%. It would appear that the figure of £316,00 was made by applying a 50% reduction on the total value of all PCNs (ie £633,310). The actual income received totalled £260,182 and this was from payments made at full value; discount value (50%); and payments from Charge Certificates with the 50% surcharge added. Basically a substantial number of people pay at the discount rate.”
 - (4) Income budgets in 2009/10, the first year of CPE, were based on the projections made in the consultant's report, which proved to be rather

over optimistic. Budgets in 2010/11 have been tempered by the experience gained in the first year of operation. Also Parking has not been immune to the economic recession. This is true of the whole country - not just WBC.

- (5) Following a question asking to see previous years budgets for penalty charge notices, Mark Edwards responded it would not be possible as 2009/10 was the first year CPE was operated.
- (6) In the financial year 2008/09; 2,287 ECNs were issued (pre CPE) and in the 2009/10; 10,929 PCNs were issued.
- (7) Finally, Mark Edwards explained that 2% of parking spaces should be allocated to blue badge holders. However, West Berkshire was exceeding this amount. West Berkshire offered 4.45% parking for blue badge holders, there was 5.44% in Newbury alone, which would rise to 6.17% once Parkway was open.

3. Item 5 – Establishment Report

- 3.1 The information requested for this item will be discussed in the meeting under Item 5, Quarter 1 Establishment Report.