

11. PROPOSED CAR PARK CHARGING

The Panel considered a report (copies of which had been circulated) by the Head of Finance and Property Services advising of the intention to progress a review of car parking controls in West Lothian.

The Head of Finance and Property Services explained that the council, as part of its Corporate Asset Management Strategy 2018/19 to 2027/28, aimed to manage its assets effectively and efficiently for the benefit of all West Lothian communities.

In relation to car parks, the aim was to maximise the benefits from these; to regulate and improve parking; to sustain and improve the condition and suitability of car parks; achieve costs savings on maintenance and non-domestic rates; and to generate income.

The report then outlined the context of the review that would be undertaken and would include consideration of:- in-house direct management, external management, decriminalised parking enforcement; and a lease agreement approach.

The development of a parking strategy would be progressed by officers from various relevant services to ensure that any proposals that came forward in the future were comprehensive and would seek to achieve corporate and service level objectives. Any previous consideration of parking and management approaches would be included in the review including decriminalised parking and regulated parking.

It was recommended that the Panel :-

1. Notes that a wider review for the management of parking (both on and off street) would be progressed to ensure a comprehensive approach to parking controls in West Lothian; and
2. Notes the review would consider the various models for the delivery of parking controls.

Decision

1. To note the content of the report; and
2. To note the Labour Group's position that the saving of £260,000 should be removed from the planned savings for 2019/20 and the Panel's agreement that the wider review proposed by officers should proceed