

Presentation from British Parking Association

Summary

This paper accompanies a presentation by Kelvin Reynolds, Director of Technical Services at the British Parking Association. The paper sets out the background to the discussion and highlights key areas of interest for local authorities.

Recommendations

Members are asked to suggest ways in which the LGA and the BPA can work together to promote best practice and lobby on councils' behalf on parking issues

Action

Subject to comments from the Board, officers to take forward any suggested actions.

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Background

- 1. The BPA represents, promotes and influences the best interests of the parking and traffic management sectors throughout the UK. It currently has about 650 members drawn from across the parking industry, including local authorities, but also manufacturers, car park operators, health authorities, airports, shopping centres, etc. Its aim is to raise standards in the parking industry and improve the public understanding of the need for parking regulations and enforcement.**
- 2. The BPA's main activity is focusing on:**
 - Raising standards and performance within the industry.**
 - Lobbying decision-makers, including Government, on parking issues.**

Key issues for local government

- 3. Parking is an important tool for local authorities in responding to issues that many residents, local businesses and motorists want to see tackled, including:**
 - Tackling congestion and the health and economic benefits that brings**
 - Fighting climate change by encouraging the use of public transport**
 - Improving road safety**
 - Providing a flexible way of meeting different local needs, e.g. by facilitating delivery of goods to market through freeing up space for loading bays etc.**
- 4. The Traffic Management Act 2004 extended the scope for local authorities to manage parking policies, and sought to encourage councils to take on Civil Parking Enforcement (CPE). There are now over 350 local authorities with CPE powers.**
- 5. The BPA has been working to assist councils in developing good parking schemes and in overcoming some of the challenges involved in implementing the new legislation.**

LGA / BPA engagement

6. **BPA Chief Executive, Keith Banbury, met with Cllr Simon Milton at the LGA Annual Conference in July to discuss how the two organisations might work better together to represent councils' interests in parking and increase awareness of the potential contribution to wider transport policy.**
7. **Cllr David Sparks recently represented local government at a conference organized by the BPA. Following these two meetings, the BPA was invited to attend a meeting of the Regeneration and Transport Board to discuss key issues for local government in developing sound parking policies and how the two bodies might work together in promoting good practice within the sector.**

Financial Implications

8. **The financial implications of this work can be managed from existing resources.**

Implications for Wales

9. **Both the BPA and the Regeneration and Transport Board represent Wales. Following member's comments, officers to explore implications for Welsh authorities.**

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