

REPORT OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

(Special Meeting held on 7 April 1999)

1. APPEAL BY NEW FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL TO INTRODUCE OFF-STREET CAR PARKING CHARGES (REPORT A) (MINUTE 128).

The Committee noted the Secretary of State's decision to allow the Council's appeal following the refusal by Hampshire County Council under Section 39 (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 of proposals for the introduction of car parking charges in Hythe, Lyndhurst, Ringwood and Totton. The decision letter was extremely brief and had found no basis for the County Council's refusal, giving grounds for the belief that the County Council's opposition was ill-founded and unjustifiable. As a result, it was estimated that the District Council had lost a quarter of a million pounds in income from visitors. It was therefore considered that the possibility of recovering the lost income from the County Council should be investigated. Other members considered that the County Council had justifiable concerns about on-street parking as result of imposing charging in these towns and parishes.

Members agreed that the review of the operation of the car parking charges should address issues such as differentials in fees across the District.

J K Vernon-Jackson MBE JP DL
Chairman