



**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE
SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 18 JUNE 2024**

**SUBJECT: INFORMATION REPORT: ELGIN TOWN CENTRE PARKING
ENFORCEMENT**

**BY: DEPUTE CHIEF EXECUTIVE (ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT AND
FINANCE)**

1. REASON FOR REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the Committee of progress on Elgin Town Centre Parking Enforcement.
- 1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of Section III (F) (17) of the Council's Scheme of Administration relating to traffic and transport management functions, including the preparation and implementation of traffic management schemes.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 There has been community concern about parking and lack of compliance of parking in Elgin Town Centre. At the car parking stakeholder consultation held in April 2023, it was clearly acknowledged by all parties that the pedestrianised areas of the Plainstones and Batchen Street were being misused for access and parking by drivers.
- 2.2 At the meeting of this committee on 6 February a report was presented, and a number of options were considered by Committee (paragraph 8 of the minute refers).
- 2.3 The option to fund additional Police Officer (overtime) hours as part of a memorandum of understanding, was supported by this committee paragraph 8 of the minute refers, for up to six months, up to £10,000, from the Elgin Common Good Fund, this was agreed by Elgin Members, to carry out enforcement in Elgin Town Centre to help to address these concerns.
- 2.4 The memorandum of understanding was prepared and agreed between Moray Council and Police Scotland.
- 2.5 The long-term solution for this area has been put forward as traffic control (rise and fall bollards) as part of the wider Elgin Town Centre masterplan project as part of the Levelling Up Fund.

- 2.6 A media release was sent out on 22 March 2024 advising that enforcement in the town centre would begin and enforcement began on Monday 25 March 2024.
- 2.7 Police Scotland have now been carrying out enforcement since week commencing 25 March 2024 and this report highlights the work done until 22 May 2024. Based on the funding provided Police Scotland will continue with enforcement work over the summer period.

3. RESULTS OF ENFORCEMENT

- 3.1 There have currently (as of 22 May 2024) been 533 tickets issued by Police Scotland. These include tickets for a number of different parking offenses including parking on double yellow lines, parking over 30 mins in a 30 min bay, driving through a no entry, parking in a loading bay, parking in a disabled bay without a blue badge and parking in a vehicle prohibition area.
- 3.2 Over this period there have been 17 days of enforcement carried out. Police Scotland have reported that they are seeing a difference and change in behaviour of drivers in Elgin, with fewer cars being reported on the High Street in particular since the start of the campaign.

4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

(a) Corporate Plan and 10 Year Plan (Local Outcomes Improvement Plan (LOIP))

The report encompasses the main aims of the Economic Development programme by maintaining suitable transport facilities and infrastructure designed for their intended use and have vibrant town centres to support local communities.

(b) Policy and Legal

The relevant legislation is: -

Road (Scotland) Act 1984

The Transport (Scotland) Act 2019

The Functions of Traffic Wardens (Scotland) Order 1999

(c) Financial implications

The cost of this is £10,000 over six months as discussed at this Committee on 6 February 2024 with subsequent approval from Elgin ward members that this was to come from Elgin Common Good Fund or similar Trust.

(d) Risk Implications

There were reputational risks to the Council by doing nothing and by paying for enforcement. Police Enforcement is enforcement of traffic regulation orders and is enforcing compliance with the law and is addresses community concern. These risks will be reduced once the current street works are completed and when the traffic control measures are implemented. The Levelling Up Fund project should be completed by March 2026.

(e) Staffing Implications

There are no staffing implications arising from this report.

(f) Property

There are no property implications arising from this report.

(g) Equalities/Socio Economic Impact

There were some impacts on the grounds of disability. Enforcing the restrictions which are already in place may affect people with a disability as they may not be able to get directly to the location they wish, but this is deemed justified as a proportionate way of ensuring safety and accessibility for pedestrians.

(h) Climate Change and Biodiversity Impacts

There are no climate change and biodiversity impacts arising from this report.

(i) Consultations

The Depute Chief Executive (Economy, Environment & Finance), Head of Environmental and Commercial Services; Chief Financial Officer, Legal Services Manager, Equal Opportunities Officer, Climate Change Strategy Officer, Police Scotland and Committee Services Officer (L Rowan) have been consulted and any comments taken into consideration.

5. CONCLUSION

5.1 Parking Enforcement has been undertaken by Police Scotland over the last couple of months and will continue for the next couple of months.

5.2 Police Scotland have issued 533 tickets (as of 22 May 2024).

5.3 Police Scotland are reporting a visible change in behaviour since the enforcement began.

Author of Report: Kelly Wiltshire, Strategic Transport Services Manager

Background Papers: [Parking Enforcement – 6 February 2024 Economic Development and Infrastructure Committee](https://newsroom.moray.gov.uk/news/additional-measures-enforced-to-tackle-elgin-parking-issues)
<https://newsroom.moray.gov.uk/news/additional-measures-enforced-to-tackle-elgin-parking-issues>

Ref: SPMAN-524642768-1107