

## Partnership Committee

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<b>Date:</b>	<b>12 December 2013</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>PARKING STUDY</b>
<b>Purpose of the Report:</b>	<b>To consider the proposed cost to carry out the parking study linked to the Town Centre Delivery Plan/</b>
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Sam Caldbeck, Major Projects Officer, Economic Growth, Central Bedfordshire Council</b>

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### **Leighton Buzzard Car Parking study**

Central Bedfordshire Council wishes to commission a study and management review of car parking in Leighton Buzzard town centre covering both on and off street car parking.

The objectives of the study are to:

1. Identify current usage patterns - length of stay, user type and if there are any enforcement issues (at morning, daytime, early evening). Data to be sourced via beat surveys and other desktop data available such as ticket sales/enforcement notices
2. Consider and review any impact on residential areas of parking by town centre employees, visitor and shoppers.
3. Quantify what the current supply and demand is amongst different user types, forecasting future parking need
4. Estimate proportion of available capacity currently being used across town centre as a whole and within identified on/off street car parks
5. Forecast likely changes (5 & 10 years +) based on population and economic growth, specifically considering redevelopment of key town centre sites
6. Include quality audit review of the car parking locations in the study area that will consider issues including surveillance, security, pedestrian / vehicle access, lighting, signage etc
7. Evaluate existing car parking management practices and enforcement in Leighton Buzzard
8. Prepare an overall plan for managing parking across the town centre. Considering how best to balance competing needs and utilise appropriate charging or management tools, advising on capacity, tariff structure, parking / signage improvements, management / enforcement, residential parking controls, spatial arrangement of car parks and monitoring

It is proposed that this study will be commissioned by a competitive tender/quotation competition during December 2013 or early January 2014. Parking surveys of town centre car parks and relevant on street parking areas would be carried out at the earliest available opportunity. The study will be completed by April 2014. The recommendations made as part of the study will help to guide future policy and management of car parking resources across the town centre area.

Based on similar projects carried out elsewhere in Central Bedfordshire the project is expected to cost in the region of £25,000. Central Bedfordshire Council will be providing £20,000 of funding towards it's delivery.

**RECOMMENDATION to contribute £5,000 from the Town Council, using funds from Town Centre Management earmark reserves (965/9027)**

Report Author:

Sam Caldbeck, Major Projects Officer, Economic Growth, Central Bedfordshire Council