

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 11 FEBRUARY 2021

**Question to Cllr David Williams
Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport**

By Cllr Clarke

Question

Will the Cabinet Member for Highways help to improve the back log of New Residential Parking Zone applications, all new applications which meet the criteria will bring in an annual income, this will help to offset some of the financial losses from the car parking revenue due to Covid 19?

Reply

The County receive a significant number of requests for Permit Parking Schemes (PPS) from local residents every year. Each one is reviewed and prioritised against the criteria outlined in the On-Street Parking Strategy. Schemes anticipated to be delivered this year are:

- Forebridge area of Stafford; and
- Hattrell Street, Newcastle Under Lyme.

Permit Parking Schemes are often difficult to implement quickly. It is not uncommon for us to receive mixed responses to the scheme from residents once the operational restrictions and costs of joining and annual membership have been worked through.

The council does not generate a net income from its on-street parking activities. Permit Parking Scheme charges contribute to the operating costs performed by the council's parking team, which is also responsible for responding to day to day activities, regulatory functions and potential Pay & Display schemes. However, the current impact of Covid has seen a reduction in demand for some of these other activities, meaning that more resources are currently able to be directed towards progression of potentially viable Permit Parking Schemes.

The upfront costs of design, Legal Adverts and the onsite signing and lining measures can also be a barrier to the viability of Permit Parking Scheme. Recently, this has been overcome by securing developer contributions, such as at:

- Cherry Blossom in Hednesford; and
- A future scheme earmarked for Castle Brickworks in Stafford.