



## COMMUNITY COUNCIL LIAISON SUB-COMMITTEE – 21ST JULY 2004

**SUBJECT: UNAUTHORISED STATIONING/SELLING OF CARS ON THE HIGHWAY**

**REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENT**

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1. Attached as appendices you will find copies of reports presented to Cabinet on 12th August 2003 and more recently to the Technical Scrutiny Committee on 27th April 2004 which details the actions taken by the county borough to combat the problem.
2. It is important to note from the policy that action will be taken primarily where a major or persistent problem. The policy enables the county borough to move cars parked in positions where the viewing of them could be considered to be an obstruction dangerous to both the viewer and the travelling public. Officers are now able to tell the seller that there are powers to insist that the car is moved immediately and upon phone call (as seen in their selling notice), these cars have been moved by their owners. This new power superseded the previous policy of attaching a warning sticker and allowing the seller 24 hours to move the vehicle.
3. You will note from the report dated 27th April 2004 that the policy came into effect on 1st October 2003 following formal press notices and specific notification to all households in Newslines. Since the preparation of that report, three vehicles have actually been removed - one from Main Road, Maesycwmmmer and 2 on Fairview Hill (Pengam/Cefn Forest) - 2 of the cars were never recovered.
4. Officers are aware of perceptions from some that the problem is widespread although there is not really the evidence to support this. There are some locations where Officers are planning to take action with the aim of strengthening the deterrent factor e.g. Crumlin and Nelson by pass roundabout.
5. It should also be pointed out that this is only one of a number of duties incorporated in the highway Inspector's role. As each and every highway is inspected on a minimum 6 monthly basis there are times when the Inspectors other duties confines him or her to other areas.
6. If a member of the public spots a vehicle that they consider is causing a problem they should pass it to our Highway Customer Care number on 01495 235323 which will require the inspector to carry out an adhoc inspection.