



REGENERATION AND ENVIRONMENT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 1ST APRIL 2014

**SUBJECT: MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN SAVINGS – VANS AND TRAILERS
AT CIVIC AMENITY SITES**

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To outline to the Scrutiny Committee proposals to achieve savings relating to Vans and Trailers using the Authority's 6 Civic Amenity (CA) Sites and to seek Scrutiny Committee endorsement of the proposals.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 As the Scrutiny Committee is aware, the savings proposed by the Community and Leisure Services Division for 2014/15 were the subject of a significant amount of discussion at the meetings previously held to discuss medium term financial plan savings.
- 2.2 Following, detailed discussion, the Scrutiny Committee, by a show of hands, recommended to Cabinet that a charging regime for vans and trailers be introduced at Civic Amenity Sites.

3. SUMMARY

- 3.1 In view of the debate at Scrutiny Committee relating to banning vans or charging, officers have undertaken research across Welsh Authorities to establish what systems are in place elsewhere.
- 3.2 This report sets out a mix of bans and charges dependant on size of van or trailer and suggests some additional controls to complement the process.
- 3.3 The Scrutiny Committee is being asked to endorse the proposals prior to a report being considered by Cabinet.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The experience of other Local Authorities suggests that total "van bans" at CA Sites are rare and that most Authorities have implemented systems of charging for those vehicles which householders may have access to combined with bans for very large vans and trailers which would commonly be owned and operated by commercial undertakings.

4.2 It is therefore suggested that the Authority introduces the following controls for vans and trailers at CA sites:-

- 4.2.1 Charges are introduced for small vans (“transit” size and below) and small trailers (<1.8m in length) carrying household waste. Charge levels to be:-
- £35 for a car derived van (eg: “escort “ van, transit connect etc and trailers < 1.8m long)
 - £70 for larger vans up to “ford transit” size.

Charges will be implemented via the advance purchase of a tipping permit from one of the Authority’s cash or customer first offices. The permit will be a single use permit which will need to be handed in at the site.

4.2.2 Vans greater that “ford transit” size, Luton Vans, tippers and trailers > 1.8m in length are banned from using the sites.

4.2.3 To ensure that the sites are used by Caerphilly CBC residents only, proof of residency will be requested when purchasing the permit.

4.2.4 The Authority will introduce time windows (during the least busy periods) when vans and trailers with a valid permit can use the sites. These times will vary between sites and will be advertised in advance.

4.2.5 Signage will be displayed at each site outlining the policies and procedures and warning users that failure to comply may result in legal action for illegal tipping (in this regard each site has full CCTV coverage to assist evidence gathering).

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 There are no equalities implications associated with this report as the restrictions suggested will be applied equally. However, vehicles adapted or designed for disabled people will not be classed as small vans due to their size for the purposes of these restrictions.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Community and Leisure Services medium term financial plan suggested that banning vans from CA Sites could achieve a £50,000 saving in 2014/15.

6.2 Given the lead in time associated with implementation resulting from additional decision making processes, it is unlikely that processes will be implemented before the end of May 2014. Consequently, it is probable that the full £50,000 saving may not be realised in 2014/15.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no personnel implications associated with this report.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The report reflects the views of the listed consultees.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 The views of the Scrutiny Committee are sought prior to a decision being considered by Cabinet on the proposals outlined above.

10. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 To ensure that the Authority achieves the savings agreed by Council in February 2014.

11. STATUTORY POWER

- 11.1 Environmental Protection Act 1990, Local Government & Housing Acts.

Author: Mark S. Williams, Head of Community & Leisure Services
willims@caerphilly.gov.uk Tele: 01495 235070

Consultees: Councillor David Poole, Cabinet Member for Community & Leisure Services
Sandra Aspinall, Acting Deputy Chief Executive
Tony White, Waste Management & Operations Manager
Councillor Tudor Davies, Chair of Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Liz Aldworth, Vice-Chair of Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee
Mike Eedy, Finance Manager
David Thomas, Senior Policy Officer (Equalities & Welsh Language)
Gail Williams, Principal Solicitor
Karen Davies, Customer First Team Leader

Background Papers:

- (1) Report to Council 26/2/2014 – Budget Proposals 2014/15 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2014/2017.
- (2) Report to Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee 20/1/2014 – Local Government Settlement 2014/15 – Environment Directorate Savings Proposals.
- (3) Report to Regeneration & Environment Scrutiny Committee 12/12/2013 – Provisional Local Government Settlement 2014/15 – Savings Proposals.