



Powys County Council
County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys LD1 5LG

19th October 2016

Clive Pinney Esq
Head of Corporate & Legal Services
Powys County Council
County Hall
Llandrindod Wells
Powys LD1 5LG

Dear Clive,

Call in request on introduction of Car Parking Charges

Having studied the details of the proposed implementation of the Sept 2015 PCC Cabinet decision on Car Parking Charges by County Councillor Col John Brunt, issued by the Portfolio Holder on Thursday 13th October, we have severe concerns and would request a call in to Place Committee.

It is our view that the decision, initially taken last Autumn, but only being invoked now, fails to take account the provisions of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act, which came into force on 1/04/2016, with respect to community impact, as well as full and meaningful consultation with other relevant authorities, including the respective town/community councils, where appropriate the BBNPA as planning authority, and Dyfed Powys Police.

It is also our contention that there are serious omissions in terms of the 'showing of working' with respect to the PCC assumptions upon which the viability of the proposals, and therefore their budgetary compliance, has been assessed. In supporting those Welsh Local Authorities that were 'early adopters' of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act, the Welsh LGA has consistently emphasised the importance of 'showing working' and assumptions on an open and transparent basis, for compliance with the FG (Wales) Act to be achieved.

Finally, a recently negotiated agreement between PCC and Hay-on Wye Town Council is to be praised for its far sightedness, in providing for 20%+ of Car Park revenue to be shared with the Town Council, to facilitate the adoption of local facilities, including the maintenance of the Hay toilets. The absence of such discussions with other community councils, which are also actively involved in community asset transfer and in taking on former County Council functions, ahead of the implementation of car park charges, is, however, regrettable. It is also deemed to be at variance with long established equalities legislation, and therefore potentially illegal.

We would be grateful for a favourable response to this call in request. We believe that the wellbeing of the affected communities, their economic vibrancy and the reputation of Powys County Council as a whole are at stake.

Yours sincerely,

Members of Place Committee, Powys County Council

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