

	<b>AGENDA ITEM NO.</b>
<b>Report Cover Sheet</b>	
<b>Name of Meeting:</b>	Executive
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> December 2007
<b>Report Title:</b>	The release on licence of Westgate car park to Warwickshire County Council.
<b>Summary of report:</b>	Requests delegated powers be given to officers to allow the release on licence of land at West Gate car park Warwick for the construction of a bus terminus.
<b>For further information please contact (report author);</b>	Ian Coker – 01926 456227 ian.coker@warwickdc.gov.uk
<b>Business Unit:</b>	Leisure & Amenities
<b>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the policy framework:</b>	No
<b>Would the recommended decision be contrary to the budgetary framework:</b>	No
<b>Wards of the District directly affected by this decision:</b>	Warwick
<b>Key Decision?</b>	Yes
<b>Included within the Forward Plan?</b>	Yes (If Yes, include reference number)
<b>Is the report private and confidential and not for publication by virtue of a paragraph of schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, following the Local Government (Access to Information) (Variation) Order 2006</b>	No
<b>Date and name of meeting when issue was last considered and relevant minute number:</b>	Executive meeting 12 <sup>th</sup> February 2007.  Minute 861
<b>Background Papers:</b>	

<b>Consultation Undertaken</b>		
Below is a table of the Council's regular consultees. However not all have to be consulted on every matter and if there was no obligation to consult with a specific consultee they will be marked as n/a.		
<b>Consultees</b>	<b>Yes/ No</b>	<b>Who</b>
Other Committees		
Ward Councillors		
Portfolio Holders	Yes	
Other Councillors		
Warwick District Council recognised Trades Unions		
Other Warwick District Council Service Areas	Yes	Engineering
Project partners		
Parish/Town Council		
Highways Authority	Yes	
Residents		
Citizens Panel		
Other consultees		
<b>Officer Approval</b>		
With regard to officer approval all reports must be approved by the report authors relevant director, Finance Services and Legal Services.		
<b>Officer Approval</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Name</b>
Relevant Director(s)		
Chief Executive		
CMT		
Section 151 Officer		
Legal		
Finance		
<b>Final Decision?</b>	Yes/ No	
<b>Suggested next steps (if not final decision please set out below)</b>		

## **1. RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 1.1 The Executive agrees to give delegated powers to officers to release West Gate car park as soon as they are satisfied the Variable Message Sign (VMS) system is operating satisfactorily.

## **2. REASON(S) FOR THE RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 The Executive agreed in February 2007 to the release on licence of land at West Gate car park on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2008. This was conditional on the County Council completing the VMS scheme in Warwick by that time.
- 2.2 The County Council are now planning to complete the VMS scheme in Warwick by the end March of 2008 and to start work at West Gate car park during the early part of the financial year 08/09.
- 2.3 By giving officers delegated powers the release of the land can be made as soon as VMS is operating without the need to report back to the Executive thus speeding up the delivery of the project.
- 2.3 A licence agreement between Warwick District Council and Warwickshire County Council for the release of part of West Gate car park for a bus terminus has now been finalised by the Head of Legal who was given delegated powers in February 2007 to negotiate an agreement. The licence agreement is detailed in Appendix 1.

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S) CONSIDERED**

- 3.1.1 The alternative is not to give delegated powers to officers and wait until after the full commissioning of the Variable Message Scheme (VMS) for Warwick has been successfully completed before bringing a report to the Executive. This was rejected as it has the potential to delay the project further.

## **4. BUDGETARY FRAMEWORK**

- 4.1 There is expected to be some loss of car park income by reducing the capacity of West Gate car park from 46 to 32 spaces. However the provision of VMS is expected to increase usage of the Warwick District Council car parks identified in the VMS scheme which will cover the loss of income and a contribution towards the maintenance cost of the system. The Council has allocated £10,000 in the 08/09 budget towards the maintenance of the VMS system for Warwick.

## **5. POLICY FRAMEWORK**

- 5.1.1 The provision of a Bus Terminus at West Gate car park supports the policy of making the town centre more accessible and of improving the vitality and viability of the town centre.
- 5.1.2 By helping to improve the reliability of the bus service there will be environmental benefits in and around the market place area of Warwick.