

# GROWTH, INFRASTRUCTURE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY PANEL

7 December 2017

## SIGNS GUIDANCE & STREET FURNITURE POLICY

Report of the Director for Places (Environment, Planning & Transport)

Strategic Aim:	Sustainable Growth	
Exempt Information	N/A	
Cabinet Member(s) Responsible:	Mr T Mathias, Leader, Portfolio Holder for Finance and Places (Highways, Transport and Market Towns)	
Contact Officer(s):	Dave Brown, Director for Places (Environment, Planning & Transport)	01572 758461 dbrown@rutland.gov.uk
	Neil Tomlinson, Senior Highways Manager	01572 758342 ntomlinson@rutland.gov.uk
Ward Councillors	Not Applicable	

### DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Panel considers and comments on the Signs Guidance and Street Furniture Policy attached as Appendix 1.

## 1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 To present to Scrutiny the revised Signs Guidance & Street Furniture Policy in appendix 1, following previous presentation on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2016.

## 2 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

2.1 Rutland County Council originally approved a highways signs policy in June 2009. The main changes in this update are:

- Additional details on the provision of Brown Tourism signs;
- Revised controls for advertising boards (A-boards); and
- Controls for street furniture (e.g. table and chairs).

2.2 The Places Scrutiny Panel considered an initial draft of the revised Policy on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2016 and raised a number of concerns around the following items:

- The charity status of some community events;
- Dealing with 'pop up' events such as jumble sales;
- Public liability insurance for A-boards;
- Removal of references to a minimum footway width; and
- The ability to implement the Policy.

2.3 Changes to the draft Policy have been made to reflect the Panel's comments and to reflect the Town and Country Planning (Control of Advertisements) Regulations 2007, covering the advertisement control system.

2.4 Additions to the report have been included to reflect the desire to encourage a 'café culture' within our market towns.

2.5 The Panel are requested to specifically consider the following:

- How many A-boards should a business be allowed?
- Should A-boards only be allowed immediately in front of businesses?
- Should the A-board requirements just apply to town centre locations?
- Are the criteria for street furniture acceptable?
- Provides comment on the proposed fees.

### **3 CONCLUSION AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS**

3.1 That the Panel considers and provides feedback to the Director for Places (Environment, Planning & Transport) on the Draft Signs Guidance and Street Furniture Policy (as attached in Appendix 1), prior to a report for recommendation being presented to Cabinet on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2018.

### **4 BACKGROUND PAPERS**

4.1 None

### **5 APPENDICES**

5.1 Appendix 1: Draft revised Signs Guidance and Street Furniture Policy.

A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.