



WEST OXFORDSHIRE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Name and Date of Committee	EXECUTIVE – 11 SEPTEMBER 2024
Subject	STORAGE OF NON-MOTOR VEHICLES AND STRUCTURES ON THE PUBLIC HIGHWAY POLICY
Wards Affected	All
Accountable Member	Councillor Lidia Arciszewska – Executive Member for Environment Email: lidia.arciszewska@westoxon.gov.uk
Accountable Officer	Jon Dearing – Interim Executive Director Email: jon.dearing@publicagroup.uk
Report Author	Mandy Fathers – Business Manager for Environmental, Welfare and Revenues Email: mandy.fathers@publicagroup.uk
Summary	To consider and approve a new Policy in respect of the enforcement of Storage of Non-Motor Vehicles and Structures on the Public Highway.
Annexes	Annex A – Storage of Non-Motor Vehicles and Structures on the Public Highway Policy Annex B – Equality Impact Assessment
Recommendation	That the Executive resolves to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">I. Approve the Storage of Non-Motor Vehicles and Structures on the Public Highway Policy, set out in Annex A.
Corporate Priorities	Putting Residents First
Key Decision	NO
Exempt	NO
Consultees/ Consultation	Executive Member for Environment, Chief Executive, Director of Governance, Chief Finance Officer, Interim Head of Legal Services, Interim Executive Director, Interim Managing Director (Publica)

1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 This report sets out a new Policy in respect of the enforcement of the Storage of Non-Motor Vehicles and Structures left on the Public Highway. The storage on non-moving structures for unlimited period of time, on the public highway prevents its use by other motor vehicle users and causes inconvenience and frustration to West Oxfordshire residents.
- 1.2 Opportunities for roadside parking are reduced for residents, which are subject to road fund licence, insurance and MOT costs. Non-motor vehicles such as caravans and trailers are not subject to these legal requirements, and therefore it is unreasonable for them to have the same rights to use the public highway as motor vehicles. Such storage is therefore deemed to be an unreasonable use of the public highway.

2. MAIN POINTS

- 2.1 The Council currently assesses abandoned non-motor vehicles and structures under the Refuse Disposal (Amenity) Act 1978, and carries out removal when necessary; however, when an owner has come forward to claim their property, that legislation no longer applies. This Policy therefore seeks to address the issue of non-motor vehicles and structures stored indefinitely on the public highways, and which have identified owners and not falling into the category of being abandoned.
- 2.2 The Policy will apply to boundaries within the West Oxfordshire District, including the adopted highway and any land owned by the Council.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There are no financial implications. All work will be carried out within established resource. There is no cost to the Council for the removal of such non-motor vehicles. The Council has a third-party contractor who retrieves its costs through scrap metal rewards.
- 3.2 If a vehicle is removed by the Police they will retrieve any costs from the registered owner, if known.

4. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 There are no legal implications in respect of this Policy.

5. RISK ASSESSMENT

- 5.1 There are none associated with this report.

6. EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed.

7. CLIMATE AND ECOLOGICAL EMERGENCIES IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are none associated with this report.

8. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

8.1 None.

(END)