

### **Falkirk Council**

Title: Falkirk Fire and Rescue Station Access Parking

Meeting: Scrutiny Committee (External)

Date: 30 May 2019

**Submitted By: Director of Development Services** 

## 1. Purpose of Report

1.1. This report provides information on the status of the access from the A9 roundabout to the rear access to Falkirk Fire and Rescue station and any measures available to improve emergency services access as a result of parking during Falkirk Stadium events.

## 2. Recommendation(s)

2.1. Committee is asked to note the report.

## 3. Background

- 3.1. At its last meeting, on 7 March 2019, members of the committee highlighted instances, particularly when large events and football matches are held at the Falkirk Stadium, which result in cars being parked on the access road to Falkirk Fire Station. Members of the committee suggested that this could present a risk to the efficient running of the station. Having heard from the Local Fire Officer that officers were in dialogue with Falkirk Council's Roads department, the committee asked for a report back on the situation and possible remedy in respect of the impact of parked vehicles.
- 3.2. The access to the Fire Station from the roundabout is not part of the public adopted road and in roads terms is considered to be a private access.
- 3.3. At the meeting members asked whether the introduction of yellow lines would act as a deterrent to parking on the access road. While yellow lines would normally be a deterrent, members of the committee should note that any parking restrictions on a private access could not be provided by means of a traffic regulation order. A traffic regulation order for parking restrictions can only be made for a legally recognised road. As a result any parking restrictions marked on the access, such as double yellow lines, would not be enforceable as part of the Council's decriminalised parking enforcement powers.
- 3.4. The access is currently owned by Falkirk Council with the Fire and Rescue Service having a servitude right of access with an obligation to maintain, repair and renew the access as shown on the plan in Appendix 1.

3.5. Following discussions with the Fire and Rescue Service, it has been agreed that the Council, as land owner, will introduce double yellow lines as advisory road marking on the access. However, it must be noted that these markings would have no legal standing and consequently would not be enforceable, but should assist to deter parking on the access road.

## 4. Implications

### **Financial**

4.1 Estimated cost of double yellow lines road markings on the access is £500.

### Resources

4.2 Nil

Legal

4.3 Nil

Risk

4.4 Nil

### **Equalities**

4.5 Nil

## **Sustainability/Environmental Impact**

4.6 Nil

## 5. Conclusions

5.1 The access roadway from the roundabout to the rear entrance of the fire and rescue station is a private access and consequently formal waiting restrictions cannot be made and any enforcement is outwith the Council's decriminalised parking enforcement powers. The introduction of advisory markings, although not enforceable, should assist in limiting parking.

# Director of Development Services

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# **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Plan of access roadway and fire station

# **List of Background Papers:**

The following papers were relied on in the preparation of this report in terms of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973:

None

