

## **NOTICE OF MOTION**

### **TO BE PUT TO THE COUNCIL MEETING ON 22 APRIL 2021**

Moved by: Councilor Dave Irving

Seconded by: Councilor Bob McCann

#### **Sefton Council to Legislate Towing Away Motor Vehicles Causing Obstruction**

This council notes that:

Almost twenty years ago Sefton Council decided like most other Councils in England to de-criminalize parking restrictions for yellow line offences in their area. It was felt at that time not to introduce towing away legislation for vehicles parked illegally as they believed drivers would behave in a responsible manner.

Times have now changed and areas of Sefton Coast have become a major attraction, Crosby, Formby, Ainsdale and Southport. Some of these areas cope very well with traffic but Formby has suffered immensely due to the numbers of people that arrive there at various peak times. There is limited parking in the nature reserve and the residential properties have been built right up to it. This has resulted in the area being covered with various types of yellow line restrictions, all of which try to prevent unwarranted illegal parking. It has got that bad that roads have been completely blocked with parked cars which cannot allow emergency vehicles to pass. Vehicles double park on grass verges, round-a-bouts, single and double yellow lines, on the corner of junctions as well as peoples drive- ways.

Sefton Council has commissioned a survey into the problems of visitor pressure on this coastal section but there is no legislation at present for this council to lawfully remove illegally parked vehicles causing an obstruction beside calling for Police assistance which is unsatisfactory.

Due to the increase of Visitor Pressure and the lack of responsibility shown by some drivers who park their vehicles illegally in the Sefton Metropolitan Borough throughout the year the recommendation to increase the powers of Traffic Services Department should be investigated.

#### **This council resolves to:**

Investigate increasing the legal powers of the Councils Traffic Services Department in using their discretion of removing illegally parked vehicles that are contravening traffic regulations and unwarranted parking on grassed areas in Sefton.