

SOUTH ESSEX PARKING PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

12 March 2026

AGENDA ITEM 9

Subject	Confirmation of one-year extension to the current Joint Committee Agreement
Report by	The South Essex Parking Partnership Manager

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Purpose

The report sets out the decisions made by the South Essex Parking Partnership (SEPP) Authorities to extend the current Joint Committee Agreement by a further 1 year until 31 March 2028 as per clauses of the Joint Committee Agreement.

Options

To note the report

Recommendation(s)

1. The report is noted

Consultees

Lead officers from each of the Partner Authorities as set out in Appendix B of the Joint Committee Agreement 2022.

1. Introduction

1.1 At its meeting on 11 December 2025 the SEPP Joint Committee was presented with a report setting out that the current 5-year term of the SEPP Joint Committee Agreement would expire on 31 March 2027. The report highlighted that Essex County Council (ECC) had the option to extend the Joint Committee Agreement for a further one-year period until 31 March 2028 which would coincide with the timeline of Local Government Reform.

1.2 The Term is set out in Section 3 of the agreement as follows:

3. The Term

- 3.1 The Joint Committee shall be operational for a period of five years (“the Operational Period”) commencing on 1 April 2022 (“the Commencement Date”) unless, with the written consent of all the Partner Authorities, the Operational Period is extended for an additional 12 months on three consecutive occasions, to a maximum term of eight years.
- 3.2 The decision whether to extend the Operational Period shall be taken by the Council not less than fifteen months before the end of the Operational Period.
- 3.3 The Joint Committee’s consent must be obtained in writing to the proposed extension and shall be delivered to the Council not less than twelve months before the end of the Operational Period.

1.3 The report set out that the Joint Committee’s consent would be required from each Partner Authority by 20th February 2026 to enable this to be reported to the SEPP Joint Committee meeting being held on 12 March 2026. Each Partner Authority was requested to seek approval via their respective Councils governance to enter into a further one-year extension and to provide their written consent of this decision to the South Essex Parking Partnership Manager by 20th February 2026.

2 Notification of intent by ECC

2.1 As per clause 3.2 of the Joint Committee Agreement, the decision whether to extend the Operational Period shall be taken by the Council (ECC) not less than fifteen months before the end of the Operational Period. On 24 December 2025 a letter of intention was sent by ECC and received by the SEPP Manager. The letter set out the intention of ECC to extend the current Joint Committee Agreement by a further 1 year period until 31 March 2028 to align with the current Local Government Reform timetable and to seek acknowledgement of the outcome of the decisions made by the partner authorities.

3 Confirmation of decisions made

3.1 Each of the partner authorities submitted reports via their respective governance for a decision. Table 1 sets out the decisions made.

Table 1

Area	Date	Meeting / Committee	Decision
Chelmsford	27-Jan-25	Cabinet	agreed to extend
Basildon	03-Feb-25	Cabinet	agreed to extend
Castle Point	11-Feb-25	Cabinet	agreed to extend
Maldon	11-Feb-25	Council	agreed to extend
Rochford	12-Feb-25	Economic Development , Regeneration and Tourism Committee	agreed to extend
Brentwood	18-Feb-25	Finance & Resources Committee	agreed to extend

All partner authorities have now formally confirmed that they agree to an extension of the Joint Committee Agreement by a further 1 year until 31 March 2028

3.2 As per clause 3.3 of the Joint Committee Agreement the Joint Committee's consent must be obtained in writing to the proposed extension and shall be delivered to the Council not less than 12 months before the end of the operational period. A letter confirming the SEPP Joint Committee decision to extend the Joint Committee Agreement by a further year until 31 March 2028 will be sent to ECC before this 31 March 2026 deadline.

6 Conclusion

As per clause 3.2 of the Joint Committee Agreement, ECC has provided the SEPP Joint Committee with a letter of intent to extend the current term of the Joint Committee Agreement by a further one-year period until 31 March 2028.

Extending the Joint Committee Agreement by a further one-year period and as per clause 3.1 of the Agreement is dependent on all six partner authorities providing their written consent to the extension.

All six partner authorities have gained approval to the one-year extension via their respective governance and confirmed this decision in writing to the South Essex Parking Partnership Manager.

A letter confirming the SEPP Joint Committee decision to extend the Joint Committee Agreement by a further year until 31 March 2028 will be sent to ECC before the 31 March 2026 deadline.

<u>List of Appendices</u>
None
<u>Background Papers</u>
South Essex Parking Partnership Joint Committee Agreement 2022