Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda Item No.

Report of Corporate Director for Place to

Traffic & Parking Working Party and
Cabinet Committee

on 17th September 2015

Report prepared by: Zulfiqar Ali, Group Manager, Highways and Traffic Group

Outcome of Consultation on a Residents' Parking Scheme in Queensway East Area

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Terry A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

1.1 For Members to consider the outcomes of a recent consultation on a possible residents only parking scheme in the roads bounding Queensway, Southchurch Road and Southchurch Avenue (the Queensway East Area).

2. Recommendation:

- 2.1 Members of the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee to note the outcome of the public consultation as detailed in Appendix 1 with a recommendation:
 - a) Agree to advertise the proposals in accordance with statutory requirements. The times of operation of the scheme to be 9am to 9pm to account for the variation in non-residential parking.
 - b) Agree that in the event of there being no unresolved objections to the proposals, implement the Residents Parking Scheme
 - c) Note that any unresolved objections will be reported back to this committee for consideration.

3. Background

- 3.1 At the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee in May 2013 consideration was given to a Ward Members request to implement parking controls (maximum 1 hour stay excluding residents with permits in Old Southend Road, Wesley Road, Stanley Road, St Leonard's Road and Albert Road
- 3.2 This request was supported by an informal consultation carried out by the Members which showed that support for the measures from the residents was sufficient to satisfy the criteria set in the report on Parking Management Schemes agreed by Members of the Cabinet at their meeting held on 8th January 2013.

- 3.3 However it was accepted that a larger area should be considered due to the likelihood of displacement occurring into roads north of the area, and that this area should now include all roads bounded by Queensway, Southchurch Avenue and Southchurch Road.
- 3.4 A formal consultation carried out in July and August was delivered to 711 addresses in the area and two drop in sessions were held for residents to view the area under consideration and discuss the proposals with Officers.
- 3.5 The returns response has reached the minimum 40% required threshold set out in the agreed policy and from these returns there is a strong support for parking controls at over 80%.
- This area has suffered from long term non-residential parking for many years from commuters and shoppers visiting the town centre and day tripper/seafront users in the summer months. Many comments received have outlined the difficulties faced on a daily basis with commuters taking up available parking space from 7.30am in the morning. Other residents have mentioned that if they move the car during the day then they may have to park several roads away when they return to the area.
- 3.7 The original request suggested that a one or two hour restriction be introduced as this would be enough to deter all day commuter parking. However in view of the fact that not all non-resident parking is caused by commuters it is felt that a longer restriction would be more applicable. The majority of residents who have responded have indicated that they would support all day controls.
- 3.8 The type of scheme proposed for the area differs from the normal parking management schemes introduced in other areas of the town. In a residents only parking area, bays are not marked out and any areas unsuitable for parking due to safety or traffic flow reasons are marked with single or double yellow lines as appropriate. Existing parking restrictions in the area would be reviewed as to their suitability but essentially the character of the area will remain unchanged.
- 3.9 As the majority (89%) of those responding are in favour of a parking scheme, it is proposed to proceed to formal advertisement of the proposals. Existing at any time restrictions will be reviewed to accommodate some useful suggestions put forward during the consultation process.

4.0 Other Options

4.1 Members of the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee may also consider that the proposals as advertised should be implemented with amendments or they may recommend not to implement the proposals at all.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

5.1 To improve parking priority for residents, to improve highway safety and to reduce congestion, which were the concerns leading to the proposals.

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6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities.

6.1.1 Ensuring parking is managed while maintaining adequate access for emergency vehicles and general traffic flow. Providing residents with priority parking availability is responsive to residents needs and leads to greater public satisfaction. These are consistent with the Council's Vision and Corporate Priorities.

6.2 Financial Implications

6.2.1 Costs for confirmation of the Order will be met from existing budgets.

6.3 Legal Implications

6.3.1 The formal statutory consultative process will be completed in accordance with the requirements of the legislation.

6.4 People Implications

6.4.1 Work required implementing any works will be met by existing staff resources.

6.4 Property Implications

6.5.1 None

6.6 Consultation

6.6.1 This report provides details of the outcome of the informal consultation process and statutory consultation will be progressed.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

6.7.1 None.

6.8 Risk Assessment

6.8.1 The proposals are designed to improve highway safety and so have a positive risk assessment.

6.9 Value for Money

6.9.1 The proposals offer value for money and will be carried out by contractors procured to provide such.

6.10 Community Safety Implications

6.10.1 None.

6.11 Environmental Impact

6.11.1 Neutral.

7. Background Papers

7.1 Traffic and Parking Working Party Report "Members Requests List – Ref No. 18" report 30th May 2013 and agreed minutes and Traffic and Parking Working Party Report "Members Requests List – Ref No. 18" report 2nd January 2014 and agreed minutes.

8. Appendices

8.1 Table of Responses by road