

Southend on Sea Borough Council

Department for Place – Analysis of Members Request

Marine Parade Traffic Calming

Background

Marine Parade is a busy East-West road with the majority of the road being subject to waiting restrictions prohibiting parking at any time. The section from Canvey Road westwards features junction protection and a waiting restriction prohibiting parking between 2pm to 3pm. The road has a fairly wide carriageway.

The route is subject to high levels of use with concentrated activity in the busy morning and evening peak with traffic utilising this route to avoid London Road. The road is not designated as a distributor or secondary distributor route within the Local Transport Plan.

Speeds were monitored over 8 days with equipment at various locations as detailed in the table below.

Table 1

Location	Vehicles Record	Average Speed
Near Vernon Road	52699	29mph
Near Salisbury Road	54562	29mph
Near Crescent Road	42315	24mph

The results do show significant levels of vehicles travelling at inappropriate speeds however, as a straight wide road with limited on-street parking, excessive speed could arise.

A Vehicle Activated Sign (VAS) has been in place in the road for several years and members may recall the effectiveness of permanent VAS signage being questioned with the resulting actions of purchasing such signage for temporary use only.

Accident data has been investigated and two accidents resulting in personal injury have been recorded.

25th September 2015, 02:50 am Junction with Tattersall Gardens.

A stolen vehicle attempting to evade a Police vehicle, the driver of the stolen vehicle failed to notice the junction.

Likely contributory factors are given as; speed, drug impairment, poor manoeuvre.

Appendix 7

29th September 2017 08:27 am, Junction with Thames Drive.

A cyclist entered the road without warning and was struck by vehicle 1, the cyclist then fell onto vehicle 2 which braked and was hit from the rear by vehicle 3.

Likely contributory factors are; failure of the cyclist to look and give way to oncoming traffic.

Recommendation

In accordance with the decision taken by the Place Scrutiny Committee following an in-depth study into potential speed limit reductions in residential areas, no action is being on this issue until the Department for Transport have concluded their own review on nationally applied speed limits in residential areas. These results were expected in 2017, but is now expected by June 2018.

Exceptions to this Policy include locations where three or more accidents have occurred and speed is considered to be a contributory factor to the cause of the accidents. As shown in the information provided, four accidents have occurred in the area within a three year period however, no accidents related to speed have been recorded and three of the four accidents have been attributed to driver error.

We are actively recruiting Community Speed Watch (CSW) volunteers to help run sessions throughout the borough to record and report speeding vehicles. The coordination of CSW volunteers is now managed by Essex County Fire and Rescue Service and more information about becoming a volunteer can be obtained by emailing community.speedwatch@essex-fire.gov.uk

Should residents have concerns, it may be helpful to pass this information to them to try and recruit volunteers willing to participate in this area.