

# Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

## Information Item

Report of Corporate Director of Enterprise, Tourism and  
the Environment

to

Traffic and Parking Working Party

on

17<sup>th</sup> December 2008

Agenda  
Item No.

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### Local Transport Plan Integrated Transport – Southend NHS Hospital Trust Bus & Taxi Interchange Update

#### *A Part 1 Public Agenda Item*

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## 1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To advise the Working Party on progress on the joint development with the Southend NHS Trust of a proposed Bus and Taxi Interchange facility at Southend General Hospital.

## 2. Recommendation

### 2.1 That Members

- **acknowledge progress made with Southend Hospital NHS Trust on the proposed bus and taxi interchange.**
- **Support the work between Officers of this Council and the Hospital, to undertake a consultation process with interested parties to enable the provision of a final scheme design.**

## 3. Background

- 3.1 Members received a report at the meeting of 24<sup>th</sup> July 2008 on a proposed Bus Interchange facility at the hospital and agreed to support a further work on the preliminary design work undertaken jointly with the Hospital Trust.
- 3.2 The Southend Borough Council Local Transport Plan refers to Southend Hospital as a key site in facilitating the integration of transportation in the borough.

The Council are working with the Hospital Trust on a proposed Controlled parking Zone (CPZ) (which is a part of the Hospital Trust's Section 106 agreement) to resolve any parking issues arising from development of the hospital.

- 3.4 Work recommenced under LTP2 to review the bus interchange proposals so that the Council could proceed with the scheme in parallel with the ongoing

development works at the Hospital site. This also provided an opportunity to better re-align the proposed interchange with the needs of buses and taxis. This has led to a number of improvements to the preliminary proposals previously seen by Members.

- 3.5 The interchange will consist of a new bus lay-by located on the east bound carriageway and an extended footway linking to the relocated taxi rank inside the hospital site and will incorporate new bus shelters, Real Time Passenger Information and seating.

The existing road layout is shown in 1 (Drawing No. 5061092/HW/PD/0005).

- 3.6 The proposals have considered the following:

- The new parking arrangements in the hospital site and how these impact on the highway.
- The access to the multi storey car park in the hospital site
- Barrier access at all car parks and the effect on the highway.
- Pedestrian movements in and out the hospital site
- Future developments being considered by the hospital trust
- Adjusted turning movements at various entrances to the Hospital site to allow easier access and exit by ambulances for major and minor injuries.
- The effect of bus service changes since the original proposals were made.
- Provision for cyclists along the road connecting with both the hospital, near-by Schools and Prittlewell Greenway cycle route
- Removal of parking on the affected parts of the highway to allow buses to access the interchange and help traffic flow.
- Removal of parking to improve access to Lancaster and Chase Schools
- Pedestrian crossing at Chase High School to ensure safety of pupils
- The connection of the hospital scheme and the proposed road safety scheme at Southend High School for boys.

- 3.7 The Key issues resolved so far are:

- Site Access positions for Lancaster School and Chase School.  
Both schools are carrying out extensive building works and as a result have altered school entrance/exists, these alterations have been included in the scheme detail.
- The position of taxi rank in relation to the bus interchange.  
Officers have worked with the hospital trust on the provision of a taxi rank, it has been agreed the taxi rank is best located inside the hospital grounds and that it is in the same area as the bus stops.
- Removal of parking to improve the flow of traffic around the area.  
It is recommended parking is removed to ensure traffic is able to access Holeythick Lane traffic signals and to ensure bus turning movements are made without hazard.
- On road cycle provision.  
This provision is to enable easy access to the hospital site and the schools in the area.
- Location of Zebra crossing at Chase High and the Hospital.  
Relocation of the Zebra crossing near the Prittlewell wing entrance to the

hospital to allow the turning requirements for buses to the interchange, and the added provision of a Zebra at Chase High School so that pupils can cross the road safely.

#### **4 Corporate Implications**

##### **4.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Critical Priorities**

Increased safety for vehicles and pedestrians, improved access to Public Transport

##### **4.2 Financial Implications**

The cost of the scheme is yet to be finalised.

##### **4.3 Legal Implications**

Hospital Trust Land will be required to allow the inclusion of the bus interchange

##### **4.4 People Implications**

Safety of pedestrians

##### **4.5 Property Implications**

The interchange will require some intervention on Hospital Trust land

##### **4.6 Consultation**

Not required in this report

##### **4.7 Equalities Impact Assessment**

No equalities impact applicable.

##### **4.8 Risk Assessment**

There are significant accident risks involved with the hospital site because of the differing movements of vehicles and people; the scheme is being designed to reduce this potential.

##### **4.9 Value for Money**

Awaiting financial implications

##### **4.10 Community Safety Implications**

Developments within the hospital site include barriers at every car park these have the potential to cause greater hazards around on the highway because of queuing vehicles, it is necessary to reduce this possibility and

allow the easier movement of the traffic around the area.

#### 4.11 Environmental Impact

There is no environmental impact to this scheme

### 5. Background Papers

There are no background papers to this report

### 6 Appendices

#### Appendix 1

Drawing No. 5061092/HW/GA/0005