

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director of Enterprise Tourism and
the Environment

to

**Traffic & Parking Working Party and
Cabinet Committee**

on

21st September 2009

Report prepared by: Richard Backhouse, Team Leader
Traffic and Highways Network

**Objections to Traffic Regulation Orders
Edwards Hall School 'Safer Journeys to School' Scheme**

**Executive Councillor: Councillor Waite
A Part 1 Public Agenda Item**

1. Purpose of Report

For Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee to consider objections to advertised Traffic Orders and notices on the Edwards Hall Safer Journeys to School scheme.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Traffic and Parking Working Party note the objections to the orders

2.2 That the Cabinet Committee consider the views of the Traffic and Parking Working Party in respect of the objections heard and

2.2.1 Make the Orders without amendment, or

2.2.2 Make the Orders with amendment, or

2.2.3 Take no further action

In the event of either 2.2.1 or 2.2.2 being agreed to authorise the Chief Executive and Town Clerk to make the Orders as advertised, or amend to reduce the impact as appropriate.

3. Background

3.1 The scheme was reported to the Traffic & Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee on the 15th June 2009, proposing a variety of traffic management and road safety implications, where the following was resolved:

- (i) That Statutory consultation is carried out on the Traffic Regulation Orders and Notices required to implement the scheme.
- (ii) Should there be no objections to the required Traffic Regulation Orders and Notices, to implement the scheme subject to changes recommended by the road safety auditor.

4. Other Options

4.1 No action on requests received. This option is not viable, all locations raised as a concern are inspected by Officers to provide a professional opinion as to any perceived safety or traffic flow concern. Where the concern is supported, proposals to restrict parking are investigated. Where in the professional opinion of the Officers there is a perceived safety or traffic flow problem, no further action is taken.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

To improve road safety and traffic flow at the location of Edwards Hall School.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

Implementation should add to customer satisfaction by reducing concerns about road safety. Implementation will also support the Council's priority to improve Community safety through improved road safety.

6.2 Financial Implications

The revised cost of the safer journeys scheme £120,000.00, (including construction, design and supervision fees), which would be funded from Local Transport Plan Two and would not have a financial burden on any maintenance budget.

The revenue implications of this report are limited to the ongoing revenue costs for maintenance.

This is a Local Transport Plan project to be implemented during the financial year 2009/10.

6.3 Legal Implications

There are no legal implications, except to follow procedures for the implementation of the Traffic Regulation Orders.

6.4 People Implications

A potential reduction in the number of road accidents and improved safety around the school. Scheme designs and implementations will be undertaken as part of the existing resources for the Capital Programme.

6.5 Property Implications

There are no property implications.

6.6 Consultation

A consultation exercise was carried out in November 2008 which included teachers, pupils, parents and representatives from community police officers. A statutory consultation was carried out between 15th July 2009 and 5th August 2009. This comprised of the following:

- Consultation letters were delivered to all residents affected by the proposals.
- Street Notices detailing the proposals were erected on lamp columns at the location of the proposed double yellow line and school keep clear restrictions, road humps, speed cushions and raised junction tables, and within the full extent of the 20mph zone and one way street, and were maintained for the duration of the consultation period.
- An advertisement was placed in the Southend Evening Echo on the 16th July 2009.
- Plans were placed on deposit in the Contact Centre at the Civic Centre, for the public to inspect as required.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The proposals are designed to assist all pedestrians, including elderly people in using the highway network.

6.8 Risk Assessment

The principal risks to the Council from the outcome of this report are a negative impact on Customer Satisfaction and failure to implement the project. Negative effects on customer satisfaction are mitigated through being able to respond to customer concerns in the first instance and subsequently consulting on the proposals.

6.9 Value for Money

Value for money is implicit in the project being developed and implemented through LTP funding.

6.10 Community Safety Implications

Community safety will directly benefit through the improvement to road safety.

6.11 Environmental Impact

There will be a local environment improvement through the reduced speeds of vehicles travelling through the area and improved road safety.

7. Background Papers

Report to Traffic and Parking Working Party on 24th July 2008, entitled 'Update on the Safer Journeys to School Programme and proposals for 2008/09.

Report to Traffic and Parking Working Party on 15th June 2009, entitled 'Update on Safer Journeys to School Programme'

8. Appendices

8.1 Appendix 1 – details of objections and officers comments.