

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Agenda
Item No.

Report of Corporate Director of Enterprise Tourism & the
Environment

to

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

on

6TH January 2011

Report prepared by: John Lee, Engineer,
Highways and Traffic Management Services

**Proposed One Way and Speed Table Scheme:
Objections to Traffic Regulation Orders One Way Streets and Flat Top Road Humps
around Westleigh Infant and Junior School.**

Executive Councillor: Councillor Flewitt
A Part 1 Public Agenda Item

1. Purpose of Report

For the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee to consider objections to advertised Traffic Regulation Orders and Statutory Notices, for the implementation of one way streets and flat top road humps around Westleigh Infant and Junior School.

2. Recommendation

2.1 That the Traffic and Parking Working Party note the objections to the Traffic Regulation Orders

2.2 That the Cabinet Committee consider the views of the Traffic and Parking Working Party in respect of the objections heard and make a decision to proceed with one of the following options:

- 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, or
- 2.2.4 To increase the width of the school gate in Westleigh Avenue

3. Background

The scheme was reported to the Traffic and Parking Working Party and Cabinet Committee on the 9th September 2010, where the following was resolved:

- 3.1 That the Chief Executive and Town Clerk be authorised to advertise the relevant notices required for the scheme and subject to no objections being received to arrange for the Traffic Regulation Orders to be made and the proposals implemented.

4. Other Options

To increase the width of the school gate in Westleigh Avenue would reduce the congestion that occurs outside the school entrance.

5. Reasons for Recommendations

To increase the width of the school entrance gate in Westleigh Avenue would relieve the congestion that occurs.

6. Corporate Implications

6.1 Contribution to Council's Vision & Corporate Priorities

Upholding objections adds to customer satisfaction by addressing the opinion of the residents.

6.2 Financial Implications

Funding will be from Keymed's £100,000 donation to Road Safety for 2010/11 financial year.

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

Work required to design and implement this scheme will be met by existing staff resources and supported by the Council's term contractor for Highway works.

6.5 Property Implications

None

6.6 Consultation

An informal consultation as well as a statutory consultation were carried out between 29th October 2010 and 19th November 2010. This comprised of the following

- A total of 578 letters were delivered to all residents affected by the proposals 162 replies were received

- Street Notices detailing the proposals were erected on lamp columns in the vicinity of the proposed one way streets and road humps.
- An advertisement was placed in the Southend Evening Echo on the 29th October 2010 to be returned no later than 19th November 2010.
- Plans of the proposals were placed on deposit in the Contact Centre at the Civic Centre and were displayed in the Junior School.

A summary of consultation replies is detailed below

	For	Against
Fairleigh Drive	5	15
Westleigh Avenue	18	16
Percy Road	1	16
Westcliff Drive	5	10
Southsea Avenue	5	10
Marine Avenue	2	31
London Road	6	2
Ronald Hill Grove	3	8
Glendale Gardens	6	3
Leigh Town Council		1
Unknown		1
Salisbury Road		1

Some of the main reasons the residents are against the scheme are summarised below:

- 'Losing access to the London Road via traffic signals' and 'making the manoeuvre more dangerous' was mentioned in objector's correspondence 59 times.
- 'Increase in traffic congestion to the surrounding roads' was mentioned 49 times.
- 'A scheme that will try and solve a problem that exists for at most one hour a day during school times while residents are inconvenienced continually' was mentioned 22 times.
- 'Congestion would be solved by better parking enforcement' mentioned 21 times.
- 'Against speed tables' mentioned 16 times.
- 'One way system should be reversed' mentioned 13 times.
- 'Pedestrian crossing required' mentioned 10 times.

6.7 Equalities and Diversity Implications

The proposal will not affect those with limitations on physical mobility.

6.8 Risk Assessment / Community Safety Implications

The safety of children around schools is of paramount importance to the Council. However on observations at Westleigh Infants and Junior School does not suffer any greater risk than the majority of other schools when approximately 300 pupils and parents try to enter/leave a building within a15

minute period. The accident statistics over the past five years around Westleigh Infant and Junior School suggest that the current highway arrangements are working extremely well.

6.9 Value for Money

All work to be designed in-house and implemented by term Highway contractors. All contractors have been tendered in accordance with Procurement Guidelines and demonstrate value for money.

7. Background Papers

Report of Corporate Director of Enterprise, Tourism & the Environment to Traffic and Working Party and Cabinet Committee Agenda item number 8 dated 9th September 2010 including appendix 1.

8. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Plan of proposal

Appendix 2 - Plan of consultation area

Appendix 3 – Details of replies received and comments