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Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

Legal & Democratic Services

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16 June 2020

Dear Councillor

PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - MONDAY, 15TH JUNE, 2020

Please find enclosed a copy of the questions received from members of the public, together with the appropriate responses from the relevant Cabinet Member, at the meeting of the Place Scrutiny Committee held Monday, 15th June, 2020.

Yours faithfully

Tim Row
Principal Democratic Services Officer.

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QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
PLACE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
MONDAY 15 JUNE 2020

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Question 1 from Mr Stewart Ward to Cabinet Member for Transport, Capital & Inward Investment: Cllr Ron Woodley

QUESTION:

Is the portfolio holder aware that the railings / contra flow system, which one assumes has cost Southend Borough Council a huge amount of time, money & effort to install, in response to Covid-19 is simply **NOT USED** as intended and remains more or less empty! I would add that the promenade is used, the existing bike lane is used, but the newly created space is simply hardly ever used!

ANSWER:

Following observations on the social interactions on the sunny days we have had and the Government's guidance on maintaining social distancing during the recovery phase, we have installed a contraflow along the seafront. Our officers, who are patrolling daily, have suggested that the additional width is being used and is helping our citizens comply with the regulations.

Question 2 from Mr Stewart Ward to Cabinet Member for Transport, Capital & Inward Investment: Cllr Ron Woodley

QUESTION:

Can the portfolio holder please explain, if In light of the total lack of use of the newly created space, will consideration be given to removing the barriers immediately and reinstating the thousands of car parking spaces that these barriers are taking up, generating a greatly needed income for Southend Borough Council.

ANSWER:

The contraflow is under constant review to maintain effectiveness whilst ensuring that we are complying with the statutory guidance issued to all local authorities.

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