

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA CITY COUNCIL

Meeting of Cabinet Committee

Date: Wednesday, 17th January, 2024

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor K Buck (Chair)
Councillors T Cox

In Attendance: Councillors D Cowan, R McMullan, J Moyies, M O'Connor, M Sadza
and R Woodley
N Hoskins, E Brown, A Gibbons and T Row

Start/End Time: 6.30 pm - 7.50 pm

10 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Nelson (no substitute).

11 Declarations of Interest

The following interest was declared at the meeting:

(i) Councillor Cox – Agenda Item No. 5 (Petition – Making Richmond Avenue a One-Way Street and 20mph) – His daughter attended Richmond Avenue School at the time of the petition.

12 Petition - Average Speed Cameras on Eastern Avenue, from the Hamstel Road junction to the Sutton Road Junction

Further to Minute 7 of its meeting held on Thursday 26th October 2023, the Cabinet Committee received a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning the petition requesting the installation of average speed cameras on the Eastern Avenue between Hamstel Road and Sutton Road.

Having considered the views of the Traffic Regulations Working Party in respect of this matter, it was:

Resolved:-

1. That up-to-date traffic flow and speed surveys be undertaken in this stretch of road.

2. That, following the surveys and analysis of the data, the Road Safety Partnership be approached to determine suitability of the site for average speed cameras and, if suitable, the process for operation and maintenance.

Reason for Decision

To determine the extent of a speeding issue along Eastern Avenue between Hamstel Road and Sutton Road.

Other Options

Not proceed with the collection of the data, which would not enable the Council to proceed with any potential average speed camera installation.

Note: This is an Executive function

Not eligible for call-in as the matter has already been subject to pre-Cabinet scrutiny by the Traffic Regulations Working Party.

Cabinet Member: Councillor Buck

13 Petition - Install a zebra crossing on Royston Avenue by the gates of Temple Sutton Primary School

Further to Minute No. 8 of its meeting held on Thursday 26th October 2023, the Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning the petition requesting the installation of a new pedestrian crossing on Royston Avenue near the gates of Temple Sutton Primary School.

The report presented the development of the newly formulated Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Implementation Plan which was used when assessing this request.

Having considered the views of the Traffic Regulations Working Party, it was:-

Resolved:-

1. That the proposed installation of a new zebra crossing on Royston Avenue near the gates of Temple Sutton Primary School be taken forward to a Stage 2 assessment as it has reached the required criteria of Stage 1.

2. That it be noted that the Stage 2 assessment will be subject to the approval of a Highways Safety Policy and supporting Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Implementation Plan to be considered at a future Cabinet meeting.

Reasons for Decision

After carrying out an assessment of the location at Royston Avenue near the gates of Temple Sutton Primary School. The conclusion is that it meets criteria for progression to Stage 2 assessment.

It is important that there is a fair and consistent assessment for all pedestrian crossing requests and in developing the implementation plan we will have an approved standard process for officers to follow.

Other Options

To refuse the installation of the crossing.

Note: This is an Executive function

Not eligible for call-in as the matter has already been subject to pre-Cabinet scrutiny by the Traffic Regulations Working Party.

Cabinet Member: Councillor Buck

14 Petition - Making Richmond Avenue a One-Way Street and 20mph

Further to Minute No. 9 of its meeting held on Thursday 26th October 2023, the Cabinet Committee considered a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning the petition requesting making Richmond Avenue a one-way traffic flow from Caulfield Road to St Andrews Road with a 20mph speed limit.

Having considered the views of the Traffic Regulations Working Party, it was:-

Resolved:-

1. That the petition and its contents be formally noted.
2. That a resident consultation be undertaken on whether to make Richmond Avenue a one-way street from Caulfield Road to St Andrews Road with a 20mph speed limit.
3. That, subject to the outcome of the residents' consultation referred to above demonstrating support, the scheme be progressed in line with Council's criteria for assessing road safety schemes.

Reasons for Decision

Evidence suggests that introducing 20mph speed limits are suitable where 85th percentile speeds are already at 24mph or less (85th percentile is the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles are travelling)

Speed data for Richmond Avenue (Outside School / opposite no.55) from June 2019 indicates the 85th percentile speed is 21mph, so is suitable for a 20mph speed limit, which is self-enforcing through signs and road markings only and not through the use of physical traffic calming measures.

Other Options

'Do nothing' approach to retain the existing arrangement.

Note: This is an Executive function

Not eligible for call-in as the matter has already been subject to pre-Cabinet scrutiny by the Traffic Regulations Working Party.

Cabinet Member: Councillor Buck

15 Kent Elms Merge Lane Amendments

The Cabinet Committee received a report of the Executive Director (Environment and Place) concerning the request from ward councillors received in June 2023 that lane 1 of the eastbound A127 carriageway is made into a left turn only lane. An illustration of the request was attached at Appendix 1 to the submitted report.

Having considered the views of the Traffic Regulations Working Party, it was:-

Resolved:-

That the proposals, set out below be approved in their entirety and that the Executive Director (Environment and Place) be authorised to make an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order and undertake the necessary installation and construction works required to implement the scheme:

- Make an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order changing lane 1 of the eastbound approach to left turn only;
- Install Greenwich WandOrca between lane 1 and lane 2 on the eastbound approach to the junction;
- Install additional 'wicket' type signs on the eastbound approach to the junction;
- On the eastbound carriageway install a temporary kerb line in lane 1 to the west of the junction and extend the existing traffic island on Rayleigh Road; and
- Extend the existing central island on the right turn lane into Bridgwater Drive.

Reasons for Decisions

Introducing a left turn only traffic order in lane 1 will result in only 2 lanes proceeding through the junction therefore removing the merge section.

Installing 54m of Greenwich WandOrca (vertical 'wands' with reflective markings) between lanes 1 & 2 on the approach to the junction will prevent motorists from changing lane in close proximity of the junction reducing the risk of collisions.

The installation of 'wicket' style signs on the near side verge and central reserve will give motorists advance warning of the change to the road layout.

Installation of temporary kerbing on the Rayleigh Road traffic island and in lane 1 to the west off the junction will prevent motorists from proceeding ahead to support compliance with the experimental left turn only traffic order.

Extending the central island at the right turn lane into Bridgwater Drive will make it more difficult to make illegal movements and increase compliance.

Other Options

Do nothing and retain the existing arrangement.

Note: This is an Executive function

Not eligible for call-in as the matter has already been subject to pre-Cabinet scrutiny by the Traffic Regulations Working Party.

Cabinet Member: Councillor Buck

Chair: _____