

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH COUNCIL

Special Meeting of Place Scrutiny Committee

Date: Tuesday, 11th December, 2018

Place: Committee Room 1 - Civic Suite

Present: Councillor K Robinson (Chair)
Councillors M Terry (Vice-Chair), K Buck, D Burzotta, M Davidson,
M Dent, N Folkard, D Garston*, A Jones, D McGlone, D Nelson,
N Ward and P Wexham
*Substitute in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 31.

In Attendance: Councillors A Moring (Cabinet Member) and B Arscott
P Geraghty, G Gilbert, C Hindle-Terry and T Row

Start/End Time: 5.00 pm - 5.40 pm

524 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor J Garston (Substitute: Councillor D Garston) and Councillor Willis (no substitute).

525 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared at the meeting.

526 Questions from Members of the Public

There were no public questions.

527 Queensway Right Turns - Junctions Improvements

The Committee considered Minute 523 of the special meeting of Cabinet Committee held on 6th December 2018, which had been referred direct to Scrutiny, together with the report of the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) concerning the proposals to amend the road layout and traffic flows, including the introduction of signal controls and amendment and introduction of traffic regulation orders, in Queensway at the junctions with Whitegate Road and York Road.

The Committee noted that the following assurances had been given in response to issues raised by the Traffic Regulation Working Party:

(i) traffic counters/monitoring would be installed to monitor the level of queueing traffic at these junctions and traffic signals would be linked and could be adjusted, both on site and remotely, to ensure optimal traffic flow;

(ii) all entrances to the Warrior Square Car Park will remain open for the time being, although this will be kept under review and entrance from Warrior Square would be closed if necessary;

(iii) appropriate measures (such as collapsible bollards, extended chevron markings, etc.) to prevent vehicles exiting the slip road from the roundabout across Queensway to the right turn into Whitegate Road would be included as part of the detailed design stage; and

(iv) U turn manoeuvres would be prohibited at both junctions.

The Committee discussed the scheme in some detail and, in response to concerns expressed by the Committee, the Cabinet Member for Infrastructure gave the following additional assurances:

(a) speed monitoring will be undertaken in both directions of Queensway to inform a possible review of the speed limit should it be required as part of the safety audit;

(b) appropriate signing, which could include illuminated “traffic queues likely” signs, will be installed;

(c) advance and additional direction signage will be installed to inform drivers as early as possible to ensure informed traffic movements;

(d) any potential closure of any of the entrances to Warrior Square Car Park will be referred to the Traffic Regulations Working Party and Cabinet Committee for consideration; and

(e) raised/engineered chevrons would be considered as part of the appropriate measures to prevent vehicles exiting the slip road from the roundabout across Queensway to the right turn into Whitegate Road.

Resolved:-

That the following decisions of Cabinet be noted:

“1. That, subject to the assurances given to address the Traffic Regulation Working Party’s concerns, the Queensway Right Turns Junction Improvement Scheme as set out in the plans attached to the report be endorsed.

2. That the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to publish the relevant statutory notices and undertake the necessary consultation for any traffic regulation orders required to support the scheme.

3. That, subject to there being no objections following statutory advertisement, the Deputy Chief Executive (Place) be authorised to arrange for the traffic regulation orders to be sealed and the proposals implemented.”

Note: This is an Executive function
Cabinet Member: Moring

Chairman: _____