

Meeting: Traffic Regulation Orders Working Party &
Cabinet Committee
Date: Tuesday 5 December 2023
Classification: Part 1
Key Decision: Yes / No
Title of Report: **Eastern Avenue Average Speed Cameras**

Executive Director: Alan Richards – Executive Director for Environment &
Place
Report Author: Neil Hoskins – Head of Civil Engineering
Executive Councillor: Cllr Kevin Buck

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1. This report responds to a petition to install average speed cameras on the Eastern Avenue between Hamstel Road and Sutton Road. Currently there is insufficient data to reach a conclusion and therefore this report seeks to conduct speed and flow surveys.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

- 2.1. **Up to date traffic flow and speed surveys are undertaken.**
- 2.2. **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.**

3. Background

- 3.1. On Thursday 23 March 2023 a petition was presented to the council for the installation of average speed cameras along Eastern Avenue from its junction with Hamstel Road to its junction with Sutton Road. This petition was referred to the Traffic Regulation Working Party.
- 3.2. On 14 September 2020 the then Head of Traffic Management & Highway Network brought a report to this committee to inform that the Safer Essex Roads Partnership had not previously supported the use of fixed safety cameras at this location.

- 3.3. The report also noted that the partnership was in the process of agreeing a new policy that relaxed some of the rules.
- 3.4. In response the Cabinet at the meeting held on 2 November 2020 resolved That an average speed camera enforcement scheme on both sides of Eastern Avenue between Hamstel Road and Sutton Road, should be pursued.
- 3.5. The current speed data dates from September 2020 and was collected in the vicinity of Bournemouth Park Road. The 85th percentile speed (36mph) is less than the posted 40mph speed limit. Whilst the recorded speed at this point is positive, it is unfortunately felt that this location is not representative of the nature of this stretch of carriageway.
- 3.6. Prior to determining whether or not average speed cameras would be suitable on Eastern Avenue, at the location stated in the petition, there is a need to collect up to date evidence and at locations more reflective of the nature of the road. Following which engagement with the Road Safety Partnership would be sought.

4. Reasons for Decisions

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

5. Other Options

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

6. Financial Implications

- 6.1. The data collection exercise will be dealt with via existing budgets (estimated circa £10k).
- 6.2. If the data supports the progression of the scheme then the potential £300,000 capital cost for the installation of the cameras with the funding to be sought either LTP or via an application to the investment board. Before proceeding a recommendation will be brought back to the traffic regulation working party.

7. Legal Implications

- 7.1. The outcome of the investigations may result in the expenditure of £300,000 and Traffic Regulation Orders for the installation of the speed cameras.

8. Policy Context

- 8.1 LTP3 Policy 16 – Road Safety Engineering

9. Carbon Impact

9.1. Regulating speeds and reducing sudden braking and acceleration will have a positive air quality impact

10. Equalities

10.1. There are no equalities issues in relation to the collection of the data.

11. Consultation

11.1. Statutory consultation for the traffic regulation orders.

12. Appendices

12.1. **Appendix 1:**

13. Report Authorisation

This report has been approved for publication by:		
	Name:	Date:
S151 Officer	Joe Chesterton	28 Nov 23
Monitoring Officer	Kim Sawyer	07 Dec 23
Executive Director(s)	Alan Richard	28 Nov 23
Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Kevin Buck	27 Nov 23