

1. Here is a brief summary of the crime information for the past two months:

	January 2017	February 2017
All crime	187	175
Anti-social behaviour	61	57
Bicycle theft	0	1
Burglary	14	11
Criminal damage and arson	12	21
Drugs	3	1
Other crime	4	9
Other theft	16	11
Possession of weapons	1	0
Public order	11	5
Robbery	1	1
Shoplifting	7	8
Theft from the person	1	2
Vehicle crime	17	14
Violence and sexual offences	39	34

2. Could we ask that you show consideration to your neighbours if you are feeding the larger birds in your garden. Our location as a seaside town means we expect to see seagulls, but they do make a considerable amount of mess on surrounding houses and cars. Street bins in Thorpe Bay Gardens are being looked at, with a view to changing them from open top bins to street style bins to stop the seagulls and foxes being able to pull the rubbish from them and spreading it over the gardens.

3. Information regarding the proposed E-mobility hub Project in Southend-on-Sea

As part of this project Southend will become a pilot town for e-mobility hubs. This will involve the installation of electric vehicle charging posts, an electric car club, bike and e-bikes for hire, a website for bookings and an integrated smart card system. The project will support Southend in becoming a Smart City.

MotionHub - Installation of travel hubs to promote sustainable end to end journeys. Installation of electric vehicle infrastructure and cycle hire infrastructure in the Borough to support the project. To implement a pool car scheme for Southend Council and a car club and hire bikes for the public.

Electric Vehicle Car Club

The proposed locations for these will be:

Council Offices – To use the existing two electric vehicle charging points located in the Civic Centre North public car park. It is proposed that the Council uses these two electric vehicles as pool cars for our staff. These vehicles will also be available to the public to use as car club vehicles.

London Road – Locate two electric car club vehicles next to the existing charging points located opposite Sainsbury's supermarket. This will require the repurposing of the loading bay.

Short Street car park – To use two of the permit holder bays located at the south end of the car park.

Hamlet Court Road car park – To use two spaces next to the existing charging points.

Cycle Hire Scheme

Hour Bike is the lead organisation responsible for this work stream. They have proposed four locations for the bike docking stations with a total of 20 bikes of both electric and pedal. Subject to planning permission the installations of the bike docking stations will be complete in a couple of months' time. The locations are listed below:

Western Esplanade bottom of Pier Hill

Marine Parade, two locations along City Beach

Civic Centre near to the bus stop At all the locations the docking stations will be located out of the way of pedestrians and against railings. The bike docking station will look similar to the below, but will have around 5 bikes docked at most times. The local social enterprise, The Comfy Saddle will be employed by Hour Bike to carry out the maintenance and to move the bikes around so that there are always bikes available at each of the four docking stations.

Software

The main aim of the project is enhance the end to end journey and therefore a booking system is being developed. The booking system will allow people to plan and book their whole journey, whether this be from the hire bike to train to bus and onto a car club vehicle, the software will provide the public with one ticket to access their whole journey.

4. The Lower Thames Crossing

A map of the planned route for the Lower Thames Crossing is shown in the following link (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-surrey-39575467>). Unfortunately taking it straight back on to the M25 is not going to work. Government officials have already admitted the M25 exceeds its official capacity. The crossing decision looks likely to be a short-term fix but a long-term pain. In our view the plan should be further east and link to an upgraded A12, and with a further connection to the M11.

When complete it will link the M25 between Junction 29 and 30, and cross the Thames via a tunnel between Tilbury and east of Gravesend, before connecting with the A2 near Shorne in Kent.

Also announced is £66m investment to widen the A13 – a major route through Thurrock and the Thames Gateway growth area and directly enable the creation of an estimated 4,045 new jobs and 3,340 new homes by 2021.

A further £10m will be invested to alleviate congestion and the environmental impact of the current crossing at Dartford.

5. Southend A&E Department

Having been publicly criticised for raising our concerns towards the end of last year, the proposal to downgrade our A&E looks as though it is now becoming a reality. We all need to support our hospital, especially our A&E Department. Once you start losing expertise, it will start the downward spiral of our local NHS. We are already 2,600 medically trained staff short in Mid and South Essex. This is not the way to encourage more clinically trained staff to our area. A petition has been set up at: <https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/194057> if any of you want to sign it. It seems you can only register one vote per email address.