

**BERA E-NEWSLETTER 27th November 2018 – www.bera.co.uk
(printable version of Newsletter is available soon on website if needed)**

Reminders:

BERA AGM - Please make a note in your diaries so that we can get as many people to attend as possible. We are holding the BERA AGM on Thursday 21st March 2019 at St Augustine's Church from 8-10pm. Speakers will be confirmed nearer the time.

The next BERA sponsored coffee morning will be on Thursday 20th December 2018 at The Methodist Church on the corner of Johnstone Road and The Broadway from 10am to midday. Please come along for a mince pie and a tea or coffee.

We will be bringing alarms/signs in case any of you want to buy them. The costs are:

PIR sensor alarm £7.38 (the white one)

Defender shock/contact alarm £9.94 (the grey one)

Garage and shed signs £1.19 each

We also have free panic and personal alarms and car key signal blocking pouches available for BERA members.

Which subscription logon details:

Username: burgesestate

Password: BERAResidents

1. Letter referring the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership's (STP) 'Your Care in the Best Place' public consultation and resulting decisions taken by the Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Group's Joint Committee (the CCG Joint Committee) to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care.

Dear Secretary of State,

Referral of Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership – Your Care in the Best Place Public Consultation by the Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Group's Joint Committee

The Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's People Scrutiny Committee (Scrutiny) writes to advise you that on 9 October 2018 Scrutiny unanimously took the decision to refer the Mid and South Essex Sustainability and Transformation Partnership's (STP) 'Your Care in the Best Place' public consultation and resulting decisions taken by the Mid and South Essex Clinical Commissioning Group's Joint Committee (the CCG Joint Committee) to your office.

In July 2018 the Full Council unanimously agreed a Motion which requested that Scrutiny give due consideration to a referral to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care. On 18

October 2018 the Council noted Scrutiny's decision to refer to the Secretary of State thereby endorsing the referral.

In June 2014 The Department of Health published 'Guidance to support Local Authorities and their partners to deliver effective health scrutiny'. This guidance stipulated that where scrutiny is required in relation to substantial reconfiguration proposals across local authority boundaries establishment of a Joint Scrutiny Committee (JHOSC) is mandatory. The guidance further allows that Local Authorities may choose to delegate their power of referral to the mandatory JHOSC but need not do so. If they choose to not delegate then the Local Authority may make such referrals.

I can confirm that, as an upper tier Local Authority, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council have formed a JHOSC with both Essex County Council and Thurrock Council. I can also confirm that the power of referral has been retained by each of the Local Authorities.

Southend-on-Sea Borough Council can refer decisions to the Secretary of State under certain prescribed criteria outlined in legislation. Based on these criteria the grounds for this referral are as follows;

- i. Scrutiny is not satisfied with the adequacy of the content of the consultation with Southend-on-Sea Borough Council regarding the Mid and South Essex STP – 'Your Care in the Best Place'; and
- ii. Scrutiny considers that the CCG Joint Committee decision regarding stroke services (decision #12) is not in the interests of the health service in our area.

Attached to this letter is a detailed supporting document outlining Scrutiny's grounds for this referral, a summary of its reasons and evidence to support this referral.

As Chair of Scrutiny I would ask that you give your full consideration to the issues raised by the Council following its' extensive and thorough work over many years with the STP and previously, the Essex Success Regime.

The detail of our referral is attached to this letter. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Fiona Abbott, Statutory Scrutiny Officer, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council, (fionaabbott@southend.gov.uk or 01702 215 104).

Scrutiny looks forward to your reply and we hope that your view on these issues will provide a way forward in support of better outcomes for the residents of Southend-on-Sea.

Yours sincerely,

BERA COMMENT: Our BERA Chairman has had the chance to review and make amendments to this letter and is happy with the final result.

The Council has received a letter from the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in which they seem to be unhappy with the decision of the council to refer the STP proposals back to the Secretary of State.

It appears they do not understand that as a council we have the legal right to refer any decision made by the STP/CCG to the Secretary of State and the council has taken that very decision.

We believe that maybe it is about time the CCG stop thinking about themselves and should come under the control of the Council, within its own public health department, removing the cost of an undemocratic layer of beaurocracy.

2. Kent Elms/The Bell

Kent Elms

The final water main diversion works are nearing completion, as soon as this work is finished the foundations for the footbridge will commence construction outside Kent Elms Health Centre. The Southend bound lane 1 will remain closed for the whole duration of the foundation works.

Commencing next week the contractor is also installing bollards in the north verge Southend bound along the A127, The Parks Department are also tidying up the verges and utilising the traffic management, which will be required during off peak periods only (between 9:30-15:30). The junction will be down to one lane through Kent Elms junction towards the right hand turn lane for A1158. These works will be taking place Monday to Friday only and do not require weekend working.

BERA COMMENT: There have been a number of accidents at this junction where it goes from 3 lanes to 2 over a very short distance, our Chairman himself having some near misses. We have spoken to the Leader of the Council and Chief Executive raising our concerns, which they have promised to give due consideration to.

The Bell

Trial holes are currently being undertaken at The Bell to confirm the location of statutory undertakers equipment and are progressing well. From Monday (26/11) the traffic management shall be switched to Hoblethick Lane and then progress onto Rochford Road. The aim is to be complete by 7th December, which will depend on weather and amount of hand digging required.

3. Parking meters in Thorpe Esplanade

BERA have been challenging the validity of the parking meters that were placed in Thorpe Esplanade, but at a meeting last night there was a council vote on whether or not to refer the matter back to the Traffic Regulations Committee. Unfortunately, the vote was not successful so the meters will be staying. BERA have therefore lodged a stage 1 complaint with the council.

4. Paving repaired

We would like to say a big thank you to the BERA member who offered and carried out repairs to the pavement outside their property, as it had been damaged during building alterations.

Unfortunately this is not usually the case and it costs the council thousands of pounds in both repairs to the pavement and due to claims where members of the public have been injured. Let's not forget that money could be usefully spent elsewhere. If you need building work to be carried out at your property, please encourage your contractors to protect the footway otherwise, under the Highways Act, it becomes the responsibility of the householder for the cost of repairs.

5. Southend NHW Crime Data (19th to 25th November 2018)

Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO
Southchurch	42/170356/18	Other criminal damage, other (Under £5,000)	21/11/2018 15:28	21/11/2018 00:00	Hamstel Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED HAS LIFTED UP FELT ON DECKING CAUSING DAMAGE.
Southchurch	42/171097/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	23/11/2018 07:48	22/11/2018 23:59	Hamstel Road	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS GAINED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS BLUE FORD C-MAX BY MEANS UNKNOWN AND HAVE THEN REMOVED ITEMS WITHOUT PERMISSION.
Southchurch	42/171892/18	Aggravated Burglary - Residential - Dwelling	23/11/2018 19:02	23/11/2018 19:00	Archer Avenue	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT HAS FORCED ENTRY TO THE VICTIMS ADDRESS ARMED WITH A HAMMER WITH THE INTENT OF CAUSING HARM. SUSPECT HAS THEN DROPPED THE WEAPON AND FLED THE ADDRESS.
Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO
Thorpe	42/172451/18	Theft of a motor vehicle	25/11/2018 17:08	25/11/2018 00:00	Eastern Esplanade	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT NAMED WHO HAD BEEN IN THE SAME HOTEL ROOM AS THE SUSPECT HAS TAKEN £125 FROM THE VICTIMS POCKET AND ALSO STOLEN HIS BROWN VAUXHALL ASTRA ESTATE. VICTIM STATES SHE IS GOING TO DROP IT BACK BUT SHE HAS NOT. VEHICLE HAS BEEN FOUND IN KINGFISHER CLOSE SHOEBOURNESS.
Ward	Reference	Offence Type	Reported Date	Committed From	Street	Town	MO
West Shoebury	42/169938/18	Theft from a motor vehicle	20/11/2018 11:23	19/11/2018 04:00	Maplin Way	Southend-on-Sea	SUSPECT UNKNOWN HAS BROKEN INTO VICTIMS VEHICLE AND STOLEN THE STEERING WHEEL AND CONSOLE.

6. Committee formed to get Shakedown wheels rolling

A committee led by local motorbike enthusiasts and interested parties has been formed to ensure the Southend Shakedown will take place in 2019.

Councillors met with the organisers who include Cllr Brian Ayling, local enthusiast Adam Ball, and other residents, charities and businesses who have been in discussion about how to ensure the Southend Shakedown can take place next year, after a two year gap following the previous organiser pulling out due to rising costs.

The group has received some early funding from seafront businesses as sponsorship for the event and the council is offering support and advice to help promote the event.

Early discussions have proved productive and the committee are confident the Southend Shakedown will go ahead next year, and will also prove to be a well-attended, well-prepared event in the 2019 events calendar.

Discussions are at an early stage, the plans are looking positive and look set to ensure the Southend Shakedown will once again fill the Golden Mile with motorbike enthusiasts and visitors alike.

There have been a number of challenges and issues with this event in recent years and this group has been set up to collectively deliver a positive event and experience for all. The group are working together and responding well to the discussions.

Adam Ball, chairman of the Southend Shakedown Resurrection, said: After the Ace Cafe stepped down from organizing the Southend Shakedown, a couple of years of uncertainty surrounding the event ensued. So this year both myself and another biker, Richard Sears put our collective efforts together and formed a committee - The Southend Shakedown Resurrection - SSR for short.

7. Abandoned caravan on Thorpe Hall Avenue

The owners have until 6th December to move the caravan parked in Thorpe Hall Avenue, otherwise it will be removed and destroyed by the Council. The Council are still looking into having the camper vans removed.