

STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL

CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS

PROFORMA

Cabinet Meeting14th July 2011

1. Title of Item/Report

Review of Cycling on Pavements

2. Record of the Decision

Cabinet considered a report prepared by a Task and Finish Group appointed by the Executive Scrutiny Committee to look into cycling on pavements and the nuisance and safety concerns associated with the practice.

The Task and Finish Group ('the Committee' henceforth) took particular interest in Stockton Town Centre although it was recognised as a problem in various wards as evidenced when consulting with councillors.

In Stockton Borough there were 199 pedal cycle casualties including slight injuries between January 2006 and December 2010. In this period only 1 pedestrian was recorded as being seriously injured in the 4 pedal cycle accidents which occurred on a footpath / pavement whilst 4 cyclists sustained injuries of varying degrees. The accidents were recorded as:

2006 – Slight accident - Mill Lane, Billingham prior to junction with South View.

2007 – Serious accident – Lanehouse Road, Thornaby outside No.147.
Serious – Lowfields Avenue, Ingleby Barwick junction with Broughfield Close.

2009 – Slight accident – Knole Road, Billingham junction with Quenby Road

Cabinet noted the legislation and penalties associated with cycling on pavements.

It was explained that in the Tackling Crime and Disorder Audit consultation (summer 2010) Grangefield, Stockton Town Centre, Eaglescliffe and Parkfield and Oxbridge were the wards where most respondents thought that cycling on pavements should be dealt with as a priority. This was closely followed by Hartburn, Fairfield, Yarm and Norton

West.

During its review the Committee recognised that education was important and cyclists needed to be aware of their legal responsibilities. The Committee supported the education programme being delivered by the Council but believed that this needed to be supported by actions taken by the police and PCSOs to deal with transgressors in a consistent manner.

RESOLVED that

1. the Sustainable Travel Officer develop a Code of Conduct to be introduced in Stockton Town Centre to determine acceptable cycling behaviour in pedestrianised areas. This would be subject to a review after 12 months when it would be determined whether to extend it throughout the borough or further legislation be investigated.

2. Stockton Borough Council's Police Authority Representative makes representation to the Chief Constable to confirm the powers of Police Community Support Officers. Consideration should then be given to ensure that PCSOs have adequate powers to deal with cyclists who ride dangerously, carelessly, ignore traffic signs or signals, or cycle on the footway.

3 the installation of increased signage as investigated, in line with Council planning policies, to address key/problem areas in the borough in order to better inform cyclists of where cycling is prohibited.

4 a high visibility campaign be organised by Cleveland Police and SBC to target the problem of cycling without due care and attention on pavements in Stockton Town Centre.

5. any action taken by Cleveland Police in relation to dangerous cycling on pavements be fully supported by the Council, including by the provision of CCTV evidence where appropriate.

3. Reasons for the Decision

To identify options for future strategy / policy / service provision that would deliver efficiency savings and sustain / improve high quality outcomes for SBC residents.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

None

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Friday 22 July 2011

Proper Officer
18 July 2011