
RAYLEIGH TRAFFIC STUDY SUB-COMMITTEE – UPDATE ON PROGRESS

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report updates Members on the progress of the work being carried out by the Rayleigh Traffic Study Sub-Committee and seeks agreement for an extension on the agreed timescale for the completion of the work.

2 UPDATE ON PROGRESS

- 2.1 The Rayleigh Traffic Study Sub-Committee has now met on several occasions to assess the current traffic arrangements in the town and to consider possible options for improvement.
- 2.2 It was originally intended that the Sub-Committee would be able to complete their analysis of the options and report back to this Committee with its findings before the summer recess. Unfortunately, given the complexity of the issues, it has not proved possible to complete the work in such a short timescale.
- 2.3 It is intended that options for improvements be examined by the County Council's Highway consultants to assess both the likelihood of them leading to improvements in traffic movements in the town centre and the estimated cost of implementation. In addition, key stakeholders, including residents and users of the town, are being consulted for their views on the current arrangements and thoughts on alternatives.
- 2.4 The examination by consultants will take some time to complete and it is therefore proposed that the Sub-Committee be given additional time to complete its work. It is suggested that a further report be made to this Committee at its meeting in December.
- 2.5 In relation to the operation of the sub-committee, a letter has been received from Rayleigh Town Council requesting that consideration be given to a representative from the town council being allowed to sit on the sub-committee. The issue of attendance at the Sub-Committee is a matter for the Sub-Committee Members since part of the decision-making process must be to gather information from key sources and interested parties. Therefore, it is considered that a decision on attendance be left to the Sub-Committee to determine.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The examination of the traffic situation in the town centre is intended to explore options for improvements that may lead to environmental benefits for the town.

4 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 None identified at this stage, although any changes to the current traffic arrangements in the town centre will have a cost.

5 RECOMMENDATION

- 5.1 It is proposed that the Committee **RESOLVES**

To agree an extension in time to December 2003 to enable the Rayleigh Traffic Study Sub-Committee to complete its work. (HPS)

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Background Papers: None

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