



Southend rules out signing up to '15-minute cities' scheme

8th February



By Christine Sexton
Local Democracy Reporter



46 Comments






Councils across the country are signing up to a net zero 2030 scheme and some are including plans for 15-minute cities where residents have everything they need within a 15-minute walk, cycle or public transport ride.

This includes work, health care, education and **leisure** facilities, and is aimed at reducing car journeys.

Some cities like Oxford are taking things further and limiting the number of journeys between designated 15-minute neighbourhoods, with fines for those who exceed their limit of around 100 journeys a year.

Recommended by  Outbrain



[Own A Barrel Of Whisky With Average Annual Returns of 8-...](#)

Whisky Partners | Sponsored



[Over 50s Rushing To Get Direct Pre-Paid Cremations](#)

goldenleaves.com | Sponsored

While Southend's local plan will have eight "complete neighbourhoods", the Labour-led joint administration with the Lib Dems and Independents says it

Carole Mulrone, councillor responsible for environment, said: "We haven't signed up to any scheme. We haven't considered it as a council. Although I favour having facilities near people, like doctors and chemists, this inter-zonal travel charging, I'm totally against. I'm totally against charging zones and restrictions on movements.

"Our local plan is broken down into neighbourhoods. It makes sense to have facilities within them so that people don't have to travel great distances, but that is different to restricting people's travel and charging through different zones."

The scheme has been ruled out after **the Echo reported that despite Southend not signing up, it had been pencilled into the city's local plan**, with towns such as Leigh or Westcliff becoming one of eight 15-minute neighbourhoods.

Asked if she would fight any schemes restricting residents' movements, Ms Mulrone said: "Absolutely. There is no thought about anything like what Oxford are trying to do.

Featured xai=AKAOjsunMxi6jDEOmF9sz6

Businesses ENCMQ8MIs2GONw

 <https://pagead.xai=AKAOjsunMxi6jDEOmF9sz6>

Matt Dent, Labour councillor for Kursaal ward, added: "I can confirm that there are no plans to bring this scheme to Southend.

"It's an urban planning concept, and one which as a concept I think is fairly sound. However, there have been suggestions of this sort of scheme preventing people from leaving their immediate neighbourhood, which is not something I support."



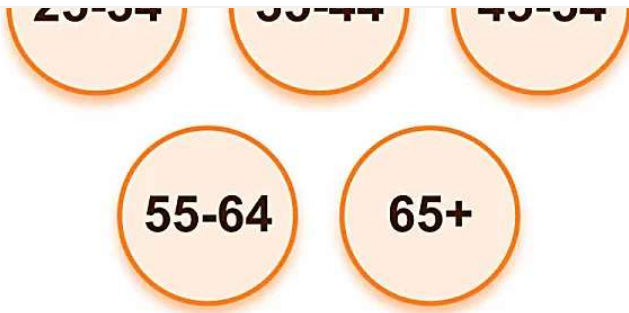
Your Old PC Will Run Like New With This Simple Trick (Do It Now)

Security Savers Online | Sponsored



Brits: This Is How Much Solar Panels Should Actually Cost

Eco Experts | Sponsored



If you are over 30, this Game is Addictive. No Install Required

taongafarm.com | Sponsored



MOST READ COMMENTED

- 1** Heavy traffic on A127 Southend Arterial Road due to lane closure
- 2** Inside the £210k semi-detached house which is Southend's 'cheapest' for sale
- 3** Part of Southend High Street shut off as trapped seagull sparks rescue mission
- 4** Canvey dad-of-two died 'after being stabbed in the neck' in attack
- 5** Murder investigation launched in Essex after death of 16-year-old boy
- 6** Protestors rally around 100-year-old oak tree as it is chopped down by developers
- 7** Fire engines rush to reports of incident at Southend tower block
- 8** Police cordon in place 'for a while' amid Essex murder probe after boy, 16, dies
- 9** Listed: The best places in south Essex for a Sunday roast (according to reviews)
- 10** Leigh road 'could collapse' after badgers burrow in cliffs

[Show more articles](#)

[Contact us](#)

[Manage Consent](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Leap](#)

[Cookie Policy](#)

[Terms & Conditions](#)

[Contributor Terms](#)

[Newsquest printing](#)

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Diversity Statement](#)

[Photo Sales](#)

[Our Publications](#)

[Archive](#)

[Add Your Event For Free](#)

FOLLOW US

Echo

@Essex_Echo

This website and associated newspapers adhere to the Independent Press Standards Organisation's Editors' Code of Practice. If you have a complaint about the editorial content which relates to inaccuracy or intrusion, then please **contact the editor here**. If you are dissatisfied with the response provided you can **contact IPSO here**

© 2001-2023. This site is part of Newsquest's audited local newspaper network. A Gannett Company. **Newsquest Media Group Ltd**, Loudwater Mill, Station Road, High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. HP10 9TY. Registered in England & Wales | 01676637 |