

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Speed Limit Review- January 2012
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	23 February 2012
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2324

Purpose of Report:	To inform the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational), ICT & Customer Services of the recommendations of the Speed Limit Task Group following the speed limit review undertaken on 24 th January 2012 and to seek approval of the recommendations.
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Recommended Action:	That the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational), ICT & Customer Services resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in section 3 of this report.
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Reason for decision to be taken:	Speed limit review.
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Other options considered:	N/A
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Key background documentation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Criteria for setting local speed limits• Reports for Task Group• Minutes of Task Group• Appendix A – EIA Stage 1• Appendix B – Ward Members comments
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Portfolio Member Details	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor David Betts - Tel (0118) 942 2485
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Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Andrew Garratt
Job Title:	Principal Traffic & Road Safety Engineer
Tel. No.:	01635 519491
E-mail Address:	agarratt@westberks.gov.uk

Implications

Policy:	The consultation is in accordance with the Council's Consultation procedures.
Financial:	The recommendations will be funded from the Council's approved capital budget.
Personnel:	None arising from this report.
Legal/Procurement:	The speed limit traffic regulation orders will follow the statutory consultation / advertisement procedure.
Environmental:	The proposed changes to the speed limits will improve road safety and therefore provide environmental benefits to local residents.
Property:	None arising from this report.
Risk Management:	None arising from this report.
Equalities Impact Assessment:	EIA Stage 1 attached as Appendix A.

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council:	Councillor Graham Jones - To date no response has been received, however any comments will be verbally reported at the Individual Decision meeting.
Overview & Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:	Councillor Brian Bedwell - To date no response has been received, however any comments will be verbally reported at the Individual Decision meeting.
Ward Members:	See Appendix B for Ward Members comments.
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor Keith Woodhams concurs with the officer recommendations.
Local Stakeholders:	Will be consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.
Officers Consulted:	Mark Edwards, Mark Cole
Trade Union:	N/A

Is this item subject to call-in.	Yes: <input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
If not subject to call-in please put a cross in the appropriate box:		
The item is due to be referred to Council for final approval	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Delays in implementation could have serious financial implications for the Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Delays in implementation could compromise the Council's position	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Considered or reviewed by O&SMC or associated Task Groups within preceding six months	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Item is Urgent Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Supporting Information

1. Background

- 1.1 Twice each year the Speed Limit Task Group carefully considers the introduction or amendment of speed limits that have been requested by Members, Parish or Town Councils, members of the public or officers. These requests are assessed with regard to the Department for Transport Circular 1/2006 (setting local speed limits), the character and nature of the road, the recorded injury accident record and any available traffic survey data.
- 1.2 The Speed Limit Task Group, which met on 24th January 2012, is comprised of the following members:
 - Councillor Graham Pask,
 - Councillor Gwen Mason,
 - Andrew Garratt, Principal Traffic & Road Safety Engineer,
 - Alan Dunkerton, Speed Management Co-ordinator,
 - Chris Hulme, Thames Valley Police Traffic Management Officer.
- 1.3 The Task Group considered a total of 11 requests for an amendment or introduction of a speed limit at the following locations:
 1. Outside Enborne School,
 2. Soke Road, Aldermaston,
 3. Thornford Road, Thatcham,
 4. Hildens Drive, Tilehurst,
 5. Old Oxford Road - Chieveley, Beedon,
 6. Priors Court Road, Chieveley,
 7. B4494 – between the district boundary and Egypt crossroads,
 8. Purley Village & Purley Lane – Purley,
 9. Clay Hill Road – Burghfield,
 10. Manor Farm Road, Hillfoot, Bucklebury,
 11. Goring Lane, Wokefield.

2. Speed limit Process

- 2.1 If the recommendations contained in this report are approved then the individual sites will be taken forward to the statutory consultation stage, which means that the formal and public consultation of a speed limit can be undertaken. This will include consulting a wide range of statutory consultees together with the appropriate parish/town council, local members and local residents by the way of a notice published in the local newspaper, notices erected on site and publication on the Council's web site.
- 2.2 A report of any comments and objections received during the formal consultation together with an officer's recommendation will be presented to the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational), ICT & Customer Services for Individual Decision. Should the proposal to introduce or change a speed limit be considered appropriate then that proposal will be implemented.

3. Recommendations

- 3.1 The Task Group considered all the above requests and recommended that the following are progressed to the statutory advertisement and consultation stage:
1. Outside Enborne School – introduction of a 30mph speed limit,
 2. Soke Road, Aldermaston – extension of the 40mph speed limit,
 5. Old Oxford Road - Chieveley, Beedon – replace existing 50mph with 40mph,
 8. Purley Village & Purley Lane – Purley,
 9. Clay Hill Road – Burghfield,
 - 10 Manor Farm Road, Hillfoot, Bucklebury.
- 3.2 The Task Group recommended that no further action is taken on the following requests with regard to the speed limit, but further measures should be considered where shown below.
3. Thornford Road, Thatcham,
 4. Hildens Drive, Tilehurst,
 6. Priors Court Road, Chieveley,
 7. B4494 – between the district boundary and Egypt crossroads – Gateway improvements at Brightwalton Holt,
 11. Goring Lane, Wokefield – Include in Local Safety Programme 2012/13 for further investigation.
- 3.3 All the persons requesting the speed limit amendments will be informed of the Executive Member's decision.
- 3.4 Subject to there being no objections received to the statutory consultation for individual Traffic Regulation Orders for each speed limit, the advertised restrictions will be introduced.

Appendices

Appendix A – EIA Stage 1

Appendix B - Ward Members comments

APPENDIX A

Equality Impact Assessment – Stage One

Name of item being assessed:	Speed Limit Review – January 2012
Version and release date of item (if applicable):	3 February 2012
Owner of item being assessed:	Andrew Garratt – Principal Traffic & Road Safety Engineer
Name of assessor:	Andrew Garratt
Date of assessment:	3 February 2012

1. What are the main aims of the item?
The main aim of this item is for the Executive Member to approve the recommendations of the speed limit task group following its meeting on 24 th January 2012. Approval of the recommended speed limits means that they can be formally advertised.

2. Note which groups may be affected by the item, consider how they may be affected and what sources of information have been used to determine this. (Please demonstrate consideration of all strands – Age, Disability, Gender, Race, Religion or Belief and Sexual Orientation.)		
Group Affected	What might be the effect?	Information to support this.
Local Residents	Improved road safety	Lower vehicle speeds.
Elderly Pedestrians	Improved road safety	Slower speeds will make safer environment.
Persons with less mobility	Will feel safer using the public highway.	Slower speeds will make safer environment.
Child pedestrians	Improved road safety	Slower vehicle speeds will give motorists more time to react to an unexpected situation.
Further comments relating to the item:		

3. Result (please tick by double-clicking on relevant box and click on 'checked')
<input type="checkbox"/> High Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Medium Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/> Low Relevance - This needs to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment

√	No Relevance - This does not need to undergo a Stage 2 Equality Impact Assessment
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For items requiring a Stage 2 equality impact assessment, begin the planning of this now, referring to the equality impact assessment guidance and Stage 2 template.

4. Identify next steps as appropriate:	
Stage Two required	
Owner of Stage Two assessment:	
Timescale for Stage Two assessment:	
Stage Two not required:	√

Name: Andrew Garratt

Date: 3 February 2012