

Individual Executive Member Decision

Title of Report:	Speed Limit Review- May 2013
Report to be considered by:	Individual Executive Member Decision
Date on which Decision is to be taken:	29 July 2013
Forward Plan Ref:	ID2660

Purpose of Report: To inform the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operations), Emergency Planning, Newbury Vision of the recommendations of the Speed Limit Task Group following the speed limit review undertaken on 20th May 2013 and to seek approval of the recommendations.

Recommended Action: That the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operations), Emergency Planning, Newbury Vision resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in section 3 of this report.

Reason for decision to be taken: Speed limit review.

Other options considered: N/A

Key background documentation:

- Criteria for setting local speed limits
- Reports for Task Group
- Minutes of Task Group
- Appendix A –Ward Members comments

Portfolio Member Details	
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Contact Officer Details	
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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.
Property:	None arising from this report.
Risk Management:	None arising from this report.

Is this item relevant to equality?	Please tick relevant boxes	Yes	No
Does the policy affect service users, employees or the wider community and:			
• Is it likely to affect people with particular protected characteristics differently?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Is it a major policy, significantly affecting how functions are delivered?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Will the policy have a significant impact on how other organisations operate in terms of equality?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to functions that engagement has identified as being important to people with particular protected characteristics?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
• Does the policy relate to an area with known inequalities?		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Outcome (Where one or more 'Yes' boxes are ticked, the item is relevant to equality)			
Relevant to equality - Complete an EIA available at www.westberks.gov.uk/eia			<input type="checkbox"/>
Not relevant to equality			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Consultation Responses

Members:

Leader of Council:	Councillor Gordon Lundie - 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 - I support the Ward Councillor's desire to see 20 mph speed limits on the road network as set out in the email from Cllr Roger Hunneman.
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="" type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
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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 1/2013 (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 20th May 2013, 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 9 requests for an amendment or introduction of a speed limit at the following locations:
1. Turnpike Road, Thatcham - extension to 30mph speed limit,
 2. Hambridge Road, Mill Lane, Boundary Road (north) and Kings Road – request for a 20mph speed limit,
 3. Frouds Lane, Aldermaston – request for lower limit,
 4. A340 Aldermaston village – extension to 30mph speed limit
 5. Reading Road (north of Welshman’s Crossroads) – request for a lower limit,
 6. Burghfield Bridge, Burghfield - extension to 30mph speed limit,
 7. Outside The Downs School, Compton – request for a 30mph speed limit,
 8. Bishops Green Road, Greenham – request for a 30mph speed limit,
 9. Mortimer Lane, Mortimer – review of speed limit.

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 and 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 (Operations), Emergency Planning, Newbury Vision 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. Turnpike Road, Thatcham - extension to 30mph speed limit,
 2. Hambridge Road, Mill Lane, Boundary Road (north) and Kings Road – request for a 20mph speed limit agreed in principle but further issues to be investigated and agreed by the task group before it can be advertised,
 4. A340 Aldermaston village – extension to 30mph speed limit on the A340 to the north and south of the village,
 6. Burghfield Bridge, Burghfield - extension to 30mph speed limit,
- 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. Frouds Lane, Aldermaston,
 5. Reading Road (north of Welshman's Crossroads),
 7. Outside The Downs School, Compton – investigate additional signing improvements,
 8. Bishops Green Road, Greenham,
 9. Mortimer Lane, Mortimer.
- 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 - Ward Members comments.