

# Individual Executive Member Decision

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>A338, Great Shefford to Oxfordshire Boundary - 50mph speed limit and Fawley and South Fawley villages - 30mph speed limit.</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Individual Executive Member Decision
<b>Date on which Decision is to be taken:</b>	04 November 2010
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	ID2050

**Purpose of Report:** To inform the Executive Member for Highways & Transport (Operational) & ICT of the responses received during the statutory consultation on the proposed 30mph and 50mph speed limits in the parishes of Great Shefford, Chaddleworth and Fawley.

**Recommended Action:** That the Executive Member for Highways, Transport (Operational) & ICT resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in Section 4 of this report.

**Reason for decision to be taken:** To enable the proposed speed limit to be introduced.

**Statutory:**  
**Other:**



**Non-Statutory:**



**Other options considered:**

**Key background documentation:** Report to the Speed Limit Review - 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009, Minutes of the Speed Limit Review - 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009 Individual Decision Report (ID1957).

Portfolio Member Details	
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Contact Officer Details	
<b>Name:</b>	Andrew Garratt
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## Implications

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<b>Policy:</b>	The consultation is in accordance with the Council's Consultation procedures.
<b>Financial:</b>	<p>The implementation of the speed limits will be funded from the approved Capital Programme.</p> <p>If there are any financial implications contained within this report this section <b>must</b> be signed off by a West Berkshire Group Accountant. Please note that the report cannot be accepted by Policy and Communication unless this action has been undertaken.</p>
<b>Personnel:</b>	None arising from this report.
<b>Legal/Procurement:</b>	The sealing of the Traffic Regulation Order will be undertaken by Legal Services.
<b>Environmental:</b>	A reduced speed limit will make a more pleasant environment for local residents.
<b>Partnering:</b>	None arising from this report.
<b>Property:</b>	None arising from this report.
<b>Risk Management:</b>	None arising from this report.
<b>Community Safety:</b>	None arising from this report.
<b>Equalities:</b>	<p>Stage 1 EIA attached, Stage 2 EIA not required.</p> <p>For advice please contact Principal Policy Officer (Equalities) on Ext. 2441.</p>

## Consultation Responses

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<b>Members:</b>	
<b>Leader of Council:</b>	Councillor Graham Jones - To date no response has been received, however any comments will be verbally reported at the Individual Decision meeting.
<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman:</b>	Councillor Brian Bedwell - To date no response has been received, however any comments will be verbally reported at the Individual Decision meeting.
<b>Select Committee Chairman:</b>	N/A
<b>Ward Members:</b>	Councillors George Chandler, Gordon Lundie and Graham Jones - To date no response has been received, however any comments will be verbally reported at the Individual Decision meeting.
<b>Opposition Spokesperson:</b>	Councillor Keith Woodhams is happy to support the ward members.
<b>Local Stakeholders:</b>	N/A
<b>Officers Consulted:</b>	Mark Cole and Mark Edwards
<b>Trade Union:</b>	N/A

**NOTE: The section below does not need to be completed if your report will not progress beyond Corporate or Management Board.**

<b>Is this item subject to call-in.</b>	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 OSC or associated Task Groups within preceding 6 months	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Item is Urgent Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>	

## Supporting Information

### 1. Background

- 1.1 In August 2006 the Department for Transport published Circular 01/2006 Setting Local Speed Limits, which superseded the guidance, set in 1993. Circular 01/2006 also requested all traffic authorities to review the speed limits on all of their A and B roads, and implement any necessary changes, by 2011 in accordance with the new guidance. The A338 is therefore being assessed as part of this initiative and was considered by the Speed Limit task group at its meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009.
- 1.2 The A338 is the main distributor road to the north of the M4 at Junction 14. The section of the A338 from the M4 to Great Shefford had a 50mph limit introduced following the Speed Limit Review meeting in 2005. This made it consistent with the speed limit to the south of the M4. The length of A338 to the north of Great Shefford is subject to the national speed limit and was reviewed as part of Circular 01/2006.
- 1.3 In the latest three year period, to the end of August 2010, there have been four recorded injury accidents on the A338 between Great Shefford and the district boundary. This has resulted in one fatal, two serious and one slight injury being received. The fatal and serious accidents all involved motorcycles.
- 1.4 This will also tie into the proposed 50mph limit being introduced by Oxfordshire County Council on their section of the A338 which was approved by their Cabinet on 2 September 2010 and now programmed for implementation.
- 1.5 A request for a 30mph speed limit to be introduced in the villages of Fawley and South Fawley was also considered at the speed limit review meeting in December 2009.
- 1.6 Fawley and South Fawley are small rural villages which are subject to the national speed limit. The roads are narrow with no footways and there are no village name plates. There have been no recorded injury accidents in the villages within the latest three year period to the end of August 2010.

- 1.7 The recommendations of the Task Groups were approved by Individual Decision (ref ID1957) on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2010 and programmed as part of the Traffic and Road Safety works programme for 2010/11. The statutory consultation and advertisement of the proposals was undertaken between 26<sup>th</sup> August and 16<sup>th</sup> September 2010.

## **2. Responses to statutory consultation**

- 2.1 At the end of the statutory consultation period three responses had been received.
- 2.2 A summary of the comments received during the statutory consultation, together with officer comments is provided in Appendix A to this report.

## **3. Conclusion**

- 3.1 There have been a number of injury accidents on the national speed limit section of the A338. A 50mph speed limit is likely to reduce traffic speeds and the number of accidents. It would also link into the proposed 50mph speed limit in Oxfordshire.
- 3.2 Circular 01/2006 indicates that 30mph speed limits should be the norm in villages. Residents are concerned about traffic speeds which have led to the requests for a 30mph to be introduced. It would also highlight to drivers that they are entering a village environment.
- 3.3 The Speed Limit Task Group considers a number of factors when considering a speed limit. These include the current speed limit, the injury accident record, results of any traffic surveys, the character and nature of the road. It is therefore recommended that the 50mph speed limit on the A338 and the 30mph speed limit in Fawley and South Fawley be introduced.

## **4. Recommendations**

- 4.1 In view of the above it is recommended that the proposed 50mph speed limit for the A338 be introduced as advertised.
- 4.2 In view of the above it is recommended that the proposed 30mph speed limit for Fawley and South Fawley be introduced as advertised.
- 4.3 That the respondents to the statutory consultation be informed accordingly.

## **Appendices**

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### Appendix A – Responses to Statutory Consultation