

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	Speed Limit Review 2004		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Sally Hannon	on:	29th July 2004
Forward Plan	ID0794		

Purpose of Report: To inform the Portfolio Member for Highways and Transportation of the recommendations of the Village Speed Limit Task Group following the annual speed limit review and to seek approval of the recommendations.

Recommended Action: That the Executive Member for Highways and Transportation resolves to approve the recommendations as set out in section 4 of this report.

Reason for decision to be taken: Annual speed limit review.

List of other options considered: None.

Key background documentation:

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

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Supporting Information

1 Background

- 1.1 The annual speed limit review process consists of a Task Group that carefully considers the introduction or amendment of a speed limit that has been requested by Members, Parish or Town Councils, members of the public or officers. These requests are assessed with regard to the number of frontage developments, the character and nature of the road, the recorded injury accident record and any available traffic survey data.
- 1.2 The Village Speed Limit Task Group which met on Monday 14th June 2004 comprises the following members:
- Andrew Garratt, Principal Traffic Engineer
 - Alan Dunkerton, Speed Management Co-ordinator,
 - PC Julian Weal, Thames Valley Police Casualty Reduction Officer
 - Alex Drysdale, Thames Valley Police Traffic Management Officer
 - Councillor Graham Pask,
 - Councillor Alan Macro.
- 1.3 The Task Group considered a total of 16 requests for an amendment or introduction of a speed limit. The speed limits that were considered were:
- a) B4000, Ermin Street, Shefford Woodlands – request for extension to existing 50mph speed limit.
 - b) Churn Road, Compton – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - c) Great Common, Inkpen – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - d) Hungerford Common, Hungerford – request for a 40mph speed limit.
 - e) B4192 Charnham park, Hungerford – request for extension to existing 40 and 30mph speed limits.
 - f) A338 Eddington Hill, Hungerford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - g) A338 Hungerford Hill, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - h) Church Street, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - i) A338 Wantage Road, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - j) Newbury Road, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - k) Boxford Road, Winterbourne – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - l) Sulham Lane, Sulham – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - m) A4 Bath Road, Speen– request for extension to existing 40mph speed limit.
 - n) Rectory Road, Streatley – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - o) A329 Wallingford Road, Streatley – request for 40mph speed limit.
 - p) Church Road, Aldermaston – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.

2 Additional Sites

- 2.1 Following the meeting of the Task Group a further two locations were identified by officers, where the speed limit required changing. The locations and further explanation are detailed below;
- A4 Bath Road, Calcot – The A4 to the east of its roundabout with Dorking Way and Pincents Lane is subject to a 40mph speed restriction whilst to the west of this location, which includes the roundabout, it is de-restricted. To highlight the

start of the speed limit it is proposed that it should be located to the west of the roundabout.

- A339 Newtown Road, Newbury – the Highways Agency were responsible for the A339 until June 2003 when the road was de-trunked and responsibility passed to West Berkshire Council. The A339 on its approaches to the roundabout at its junction with Monks Lane and Pinchington Lane are subject to a 50mph speed restriction whilst Monks Lane and Pinchington Lane are subject to a 30mph speed restriction. The roundabout does not seem to be subject to a speed order and therefore the signing has led to driver confusion.

3 Speed limit Process

- 3.1 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 and notices erected on site.
- 3.2 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 and Transportation for consideration. Should the proposal to introduce or change a speed limit be considered appropriate then that proposal will be implemented.

4 Recommendations

- 4.1 The Task Group considered all the above requests and recommended that the following are continued to the statutory advertisement and consultation stage:
- a) B4000, Ermin Street, Shefford Woodlands – request for extension to existing 50mph speed limit.
 - c) Great Common, Inkpen – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - e) B4192 Charnham Park, Hungerford – request for extension to existing 40 and 30mph speed limits.
 - f) A338 Eddington Hill, Hungerford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - m) A4 Bath Road, Speen – request for extension to existing 40mph speed limit.
 - o) A329 Wallingford Road, Streatley – request for 40mph speed limit.
- 4.2 The Task Group recommended that no further action be taken on the following requests.
- b) Churn Road, Compton – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - d) Hungerford Common, Hungerford – request for a 40mph speed limit.
 - g) A338 Hungerford Hill, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - h) Church Street, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - i) A338 Wantage Road, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - j) Newbury Road, Great Shefford – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - k) Boxford Road, Winterbourne – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - l) Sulham Lane, Sulham – request for a 30mph speed limit.
 - n) Rectory Road, Streatley – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.
 - p) Church Road, Aldermaston – request for extension to existing 30mph speed limit.

- 4.3 For consistency the 40mph speed limit on the A4 Bath Road, Calcot (described as an additional site in paragraph 2.1) should be extended to a location west of the roundabout. This would have the beneficial effect of creating a gateway feature for traffic approaching the roundabout from the west. It is therefore recommended to progress this location to the statutory advertisement and consultation stage.
- 4.4 The speed limit on the A339 Newtown Road, Newbury (described as an additional site in paragraph 2.1) should be consistent and therefore the roundabout should be included within the 50mph speed limit. This would also have the beneficial effect of highlighting the 30mph speed limit for traffic leaving the A339. It is therefore recommended to progress this location to the statutory advertisement and consultation stage.
- 4.5 A copy of all reports and plans will be left in the Member's room until 29th July 2004.
- 4.6 All the persons requesting the speed limit amendments will be informed of the Executive Members decision.
- 4.7 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

Implications

Policy:	None arising from this report.
Financial:	The recommendations will be funded from the Council's capital budget.
Personnel:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	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.
Equalities:	None arising from this report.
Partnering:	None arising from this report.

Consultation Responses

Members:	
Leader of Council:	Awaiting response.

Select Committee Chairmen:	Supports the recommendations of the Task Group, but where Ward Members do not support the recommendations further consultation needs to be undertaken.
P&L Committee Chairman (where appropriate):	N/A
Ward Members:	See Appendix A for Ward Members comments.
Opposition Spokesperson:	Supports the recommendations of the Task Group, but where Ward Members do not support the recommendations further consultation needs to be undertaken.
Advisory Members:	N/A
Local Stakeholders:	Will be consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.
Officers Consulted:	Mark Cole and Mark Edwards.
Trade Union:	N/A