

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	30mph and 40mph Speed Limit – A4 Charnham Street and B4192, Hungerford		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Sally Hannon	on:	31 January 2005
Forward Plan Ref:	ID0867		

Purpose of Report:

To inform the Portfolio Member for Highways and Transportation of the comment received during the statutory consultation on a proposed 30mph speed limit on A4 Charnham Street and 40mph speed limit on B4192 , Hungerford and to seek approval of officer recommendations.

Recommended Action:

That the Portfolio Member resolves to approve the recommendation as set out in section 4 of this report.

Reason for decision to be taken:

Annual speed limit review.

List of other options considered:

Not to implement the proposed speed limits.

Key background documentation:

- Criteria for speed limits.
- ID0794 report - speed limit review 2004.
- Response received during statutory consultation.
- Plan No SLR/04/05/001

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1 Background

- 1.1 At present there is a 40mph speed limit on the A4 when approaching Hungerford from the west. The speed limit changes to 30mph on the A4 Charnham Street in the vicinity of the BMW garage, which is approximately 80 metres after the start of the frontage development.
- 1.2 The B4192 is de-restricted, which includes a length of approximately 120 metres from the A4 to its junction with Charnham Park, where the A4 and Charnham Park are subject to a 40mph speed limit.
- 1.3 There have been two recorded injury accidents within the latest three year period, which both occurred on the B4192 at its junction with Charnham Park. Both resulted in serious injuries being received when a vehicle turned right on to the B4192 into the path of another vehicle.
- 1.4 To ensure that the speed limits on the A4 Charnham Street and the B4192 are appropriate they were considered by a task group as part of the speed limit review for 2004. The recommendations of the task group, which included the extension to the 30mph speed limit on the A4 Charnham Street and the introduction of a 40mph on the B4192 were considered on 29th July 2004 when it was approved to proceed with the statutory consultation.

2 Results of statutory consultation

- 2.1 At the close of the statutory consultation process, on 16 December 2004 only one response was received, which was from a company located on Charnham Park. Their comment was that the speed limit on Charnham Park should be reduced to 30mph and the existing 30mph on Charnham Street should be extended to west of its junction with the B4192. The length of the B4192 between the A4 and Charnham Park should also be reduced to make a continuous 30mph speed limit.
- 2.2 A letter has been received from Hungerford Town Council, which did not object to the proposed order but supported a change in the speed limit on Charnham Park to 30mph.

3 Response to the comments received

- 3.1 Charnham Park does not meet the criteria for a 30mph speed limit and therefore the existing 40mph is considered appropriate. The proposed 40mph on the B4192 will link the existing 40mph speed limit on the A4 Charnham Street with the 40mph on Charnham Park making a continuous speed limit that is appropriate for the length of road.
- 3.2 The proposed extension to the 30mph on the A4 Charnham Street will locate the start of the speed limit in advance of the frontage development when approaching from the west. This also complies with the current criteria for a 30mph speed limit.

4 Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the proposed 30mph and 40mph speed limits be introduced as advertised and that the respondent be informed accordingly.

Appendices

N/A

Implications

Policy:	None arising from this report.
Financial:	The recommendations will be funded from the Council's Capital Programme.
Personnel:	None arising from this report.
Legal:	The speed limit traffic regulation order will require sealing by Legal and Electoral Services.
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:	Councillor Royce Longton supports the proposal provided that it has the support of the portfolio Holder and Ward Members
Select Committee Chairmen:	Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation if the Ward Members support the proposals.
P&L Committee Chairman (where appropriate):	N/A
Ward Members:	Councillor's James Mole and Denise Gaines both support the recommendations.
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor Brian Bedwell supports the recommendation if the Ward Members support the proposals.
Advisory Members:	N/A
Local Stakeholders:	Have been consulted as part of the statutory consultation process.
Officers Consulted:	Mark Cole and Mark Edwards.
Trade Union:	N/A