

Individual Decision

Title of Report:	Speed Limit Review 2005		
Report to be considered by:	Councillor Keith Chopping	on:	18th October 2005
Forward Plan Ref:	ID 1019		

Purpose of Report:

To inform the Executive Member for Planning and Highways of the recommendations of the Speed Limit Task Group following the annual speed limit review and to seek approval of the recommendations.

Recommended Action:

That the Executive Member for Planning and Highways 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 Each year the speed limit Task Group 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 Speed Limit Task Group which met on 24th August 2005 comprised of the following members:
- Councillor Graham Pask,
 - Councillor Alan Macro,
 - Andrew Garratt, Principal Traffic Engineer,
 - Phil Frost, Road Safety Team Leader,
 - Jenny Noble, Senior Transport Policy Officer,
 - PC Julian Weal, Thames Valley Police Casualty Reduction Officer,
 - Jon Jones, Thames Valley Police Traffic Management Officer.
- 1.3 The Task Group considered a total of 19 requests for an amendment or introduction of a speed limit at the following locations:
- a) Westfields, Newbury.
 - b) Priors Court Road, Chieveley.
 - c) Cold Ash Hill, Cold Ash.
 - d) Unnamed Road at Downs School, Compton.
 - e) Cope Road, Farnborough.
 - f) Bowling Green Road, Thatcham
 - g) A4 Benham Hill, Thatcham.
 - h) B4000 Woodlands St Mary
 - i) B4000, Wickham
 - j) Leckhampstead Thicket
 - k) Leckhampstead Village
 - l) Wash Water, Newbury
 - m) A329 Oxford Road & Purley Rise, Purley on Thames
 - n) B4494, Snelsmore Common
 - o) Goring Lane, Grazeley Green
 - p) Station Road, Theale
 - q) West Ilsley Village
 - r) A338 Wantage Road, Great Shefford
 - s) A338 between the M4 and Great Shefford

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 and notices erected on 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 Planning and Highways for consideration. 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:

- a) Westfields, Newbury - *20mph Speed Limit Zone.*
- b) Priors Court Road, Chieveley – *introduction of a 40mph speed limit.*
- e) Cope Road, Farnborough – *extension of 30mph speed limit.*
- f) Bowling Green Road, Thatcham – *extension of 30mph speed limit.*
- g) A4 Benham Hill, Thatcham – *extension of 30mph speed limit to west of Henwick Lane.*
- j) Leckhampstead Thicket – *introduction of 30mph speed limit.*
- k) Leckhampstead Village - *extension of 30mph speed limit.*
- l) Wash Water, Newbury - *extension of 30mph speed limit.*
- p) Station Road, Theale - *extension of 30mph speed limit.*
- q) West Ilsley Village - *extension of 30mph speed limit west of village.*

- 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 as shown below.

- c) Cold Ash Hill, Cold Ash – *no further action.*
- d) Unnamed Road at Downs School, Compton – *This was deferred until the development of the school is completed so a better assessment can be undertaken.*
- h) B4000 Woodlands St Mary - - *no further action.*
- i) B4000, Wickham – *no further action.*
- m) A329 Oxford Road & Purley Rise, Purley on Thames – *the accidents should be investigated.*
- n) B4494, Snelsmore Common – *investigate signing improvements for the entrance to the school and Snelelsmore Common.*
- o) Goring Lane, Grazeley Green – *no further action.*
- r) A338 Wantage Road, Great Shefford – *no further action.*
- s) A338 between the M4 and Great Shefford – *consider as part of the safety review for the A338.*

- 3.3 A copy of all reports and plans will be left in the Member's room.

- 3.4 All the persons requesting the speed limit amendments will be informed of the Executive Members decision.

- 3.5 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:	Councillor Graham Jones supports the recommendations and considers that all speed limits should be reviewed in consultation with Ward Members and the Parish Councils.
Select Committee Chairmen:	Councillor Quentin Webb supports the recommendations.
P&L Committee Chairman (where appropriate):	N/A
Ward Members:	See Appendix A for Ward Members comments.
Opposition Spokesperson:	Councillor Owen Jeffery will make comments available prior to the Individual Decision being signed.
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