

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Item Called-in following an Individual Decision</b>
	<b>A4 Bath Road, Padworth, Proposed 50 mph Speed Limit</b>
<b>Report to be considered by:</b>	Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	29 May 2012
<b>Forward Plan Ref:</b>	ID2470

**Purpose of Report:** To allow a review of the decision to implement a 50mph speed limit on a stretch of the A4 Bath Road in Padworth.

**Recommended Action:** That the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission reviews the decision.

<b>Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission Chairman</b>	
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## Supporting Information

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### 1. Individual Decision

- 1.1 The A4 Padworth - Proposed 50mph Speed Limit report was presented for consideration by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport (Operational), ICT, and Customer Services on 26 April 2012. The recommended action was to agree to implement the revised speed limit, which the Portfolio Holder duly did.

### 2. Call-In of the Decision

- 2.1 In accordance with the Council's Constitution, five Elected Members (Councillors Richard Crumly, Dominic Boeck, Sheila Ellison, Roger Croft and John Horton called in the Individual Decision (ID2470) on the basis that:

- (1) It will be unenforceable.
- (2) This is a main transport route and any reduction will limit the amount of throughput the channel can handle.
- (3) The reduction may have an adverse effect on commuters and other users getting to and from the M4.
- (4) The reduction may cause traffic to migrate elsewhere to less suitable roads.
- (5) The accident record does not justify a speed limit reduction.
- (6) Any perceived hazard at the junction of the dual carriageway with the Beenham Road can be curtailed by ensuring the traffic exiting Beenham can only turn left.
- (7) The accident record on this stretch of road is good.
- (8) There have been two accidents reported recently, neither of which should be used as a justification for reducing the speed limit and one of them was a wholly exceptional incident where an elderly man was being pushed across the road in a wheelchair.
- (9) We have driven to and fro along the road on many occasions and never seen a pedestrian seeking to cross at any time.
- (10) The stretch of dual carriageway, in particular, is quite inappropriate for a limit as low as 50 mph. The problem on our roads at the present time is congestion, not the speed of traffic. In fact, the high element of congestion tends to reduce the speed of traffic naturally.

### 3. Role of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission

- 3.1 The role of the Overview and Scrutiny and Management Commission is to review the decision and determine whether it concurs with the decision (in which case it will take immediate effect) or refer it back to the Executive or the Portfolio Holder for further consideration.

#### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is recommended that Members of the Overview and Scrutiny Management Commission review the decision to agree to implement the revised speed limit.

#### **Appendices**

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- Appendix A – Report A4 Bath Road, Padworth, Proposed 50 mph Speed Limit  
Appendix B – Location drawing for proposed 50mph speed limit  
Appendix C – Individual Executive Member Decision Record Sheet