

Subject:	Speed Limit Review		
Date of Meeting:	24th January 2012		
Report of:	Strategic Director - Place		
Contact Officer:	Name:	David Parker	Tel: 29-2474
	Email:	david.parker@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	No	Forward Plan No:	
Ward(s) affected:	South Portslade. Preston Park		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 To consider objections to advertised Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) for various speed limit reductions on roads throughout Portslade.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member notes the objections but, owing to the rationale for the changes and the support for them outweighing the objections (see Appendix 2), gives approval to the TROs as advertised.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 In December 2005 the Secretary of State for Transport requested that all local authorities undertake a review of the speed limits on A & B class roads within their authority by 2011. The review in Brighton and Hove followed a robust methodology and made several recommendations to alter speed limits. As a result it was agreed that some of the recommendations pertaining to reduced speed limits on roads outside the city centre should be implemented.
- 3.2 In addition to the Speed Limit Review requested by the Secretary of State for Transport in respect of speed limits on the A & B Class roads, the Council decided to undertake a separate review of the speed limits on the City's other roads.

- 3.3 The review recommended that we undertook a pilot study to test the review methodology in three demographically different areas of the City with a view to implementing any recommendations in order to assess the effect of 20mph speed limits, as opposed to zones. The three areas selected for the application of 20mph speed limits were Portslade, Stanford and Saltdean. However, after further consideration, it was decided that only two of these schemes should be progressed as it was felt that the Saltdean area was too small and therefore would not be effective or provide useful information as a pilot.
- 3.4 On the 4th October 2011 two reports were brought before the Cabinet Member for Transport & the Public Realm seeking approval to advertise various reduced speed limits throughout the city. These included a speed limit reduction in Trafalgar Road/Church Road Portslade as a complementary measure to the current Safer Routes to School scheme, the two pilot study areas of Stanford and Portslade, and a reduced limit to 50mph on the A293 Hangleton Link Road. These were duly advertised on the 28th October 2011.

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 The TRO was advertised in The Argus on the 28th October 2011 and 180 notices were posted on streets in the relevant roads. All local schools and Members in the effected areas also received information about the proposals and plans of the roads to be included. Plans were also left in Brighton & Hove Libraries and Information Centres.
- 4.2 In addition to this Members in South Portslade posted leaflets to about 750 properties in their ward.
- 4.3 From this consultation four e-mails were received expressing support for the reduced limits and two more were received expressing objections. The objections received were to proposed restrictions in Portslade Village, Church Road/Trafalgar Road and the Hangleton Link Road (see appendix 1). One of the objections was on the grounds of cost to the 'rate payer' and the other on the grounds that the objector had not seen any evidence of 'crashes'.
- 4.4 Research has shown that a reduction in speed clearly correlates with a reduction in the severity of collisions and several studies have been carried out to substantiate this. Transport Research Laboratory (TRL) published results of a meta-analysis of these studies (Finch *et al*, 1994), concluding from the wealth of underlying data that, on average, each 1 mph reduction in mean traffic speed is associated with a 5 per cent reduction in accidents.
- 4.5 There have been 17 injury causing collisions in three years in the part of Portslade that is above Old Shoreham Road and a further 14 in Church Road and Trafalgar Road.
- 4.6 The reduction of these speed limits forms an integral part of the Safer Routes to School scheme and will assist in providing experience for further speed limit reductions and the potential for a citywide 20mph.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There is a budget of £330,000 set aside for Road Safety Schemes within the Local Transport Plan capital allocation for 2011-12. £100,000 of this has been committed to implementing the schemes.

Finance Officer Consulted: Karen Brookshaw Date: 31/05/2011

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Council has the power under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to make Traffic Regulation Orders relating to speed limits. The appropriate statutory procedures regarding advertisement and consultation must be followed. If any objections are received then these have to be thoroughly considered before a final decision is taken.

The measures set out in the report are consistent with the Council's statutory duties to promote road safety and prevent accidents

Lawyer Consulted: Carl Hearsom Date: 01/06/2011

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 There are no direct equalities implications

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 There are no direct Sustainability implications

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 There are no direct crime and disorder implications

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 There are no direct risk or opportunity management implications.

Public Health Implications:

- 5.7 There are no direct public health implications

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.8 None

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 There are no alternative options to consider

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 There is well documented research that demonstrates a correlation between speed and the severity of injuries in collisions and it is accepted that a reduced speed limit will reduce the number and severity of collisions.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Maps showing proposed speed limits that have been objected to:
Portslade Old Village; Church Road/Trafalgar Road; Hangleton Link Road
2. Summary of objections and Officers response

Documents in Members' Rooms

3. A&B Road Speed Limit Review

Background Documents

1. None