

# **ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

## **Agenda Item 26**

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Update on the Scrutiny Review of 20mph limits/zones  
**Date of Meeting:** 31 October 2011  
**Report of:** Lead Commissioner City Infrastructure  
**Contact Officer:** Name: **Phil Clarke** Tel: **29-3705**  
**Road Safety Manager**  
E-mail: [Philip.clarke@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Philip.clarke@brighton-hove.gov.uk)  
**Wards Affected:** All

### **FOR GENERAL RELEASE/ EXEMPTIONS**

#### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report enables the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee to monitor and track progress on the scrutiny recommendations on 20mph speed limits/zones. It will help the Committee to assess the impact and consequences of the scrutiny recommendations. The recommendations and update appears as appendix 1 to this report.
- 1.2 The report also provides an update on the three pieces of work being undertaken in respect of 20 mph speed limits; the A&B Class Road Speed limit Review, the Non-A&B Class Road Speed Limit Review Pilot Study and the scoping exercise for a large central 20mph limit area within the City.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (1) That Members note the summary of the two 4 October Cabinet Member reports on 'Speed Limit Review, 20mph Limits' and 'Speed Limit Review (A&B Class Roads)'
- (2) That Members consider the action taken against the recommendations of the Scrutiny review, and provide feedback.
- (3) That the Committee determines whether a further tracking report relating to this Scrutiny review is required.

### **3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **The Scrutiny Review**

3.1 The Scrutiny Review of 20mph limits/zones was established by ECSOSC in September 2009 as it was considered a matter that needed in-depth analysis and consideration.

3.2 Chaired by Councillor Pete West, the cross-party panel consisted of Councillors Jayne Bennett, Gill Mitchell and Geoffrey Wells, and former Councillor David Watkins

3.3 The Panel's completed report was formally endorsed by ECSOSC 21 June 2010 and referred to the Council's Executive.

3.4 The 23 September 2010 Environment CMM considered and agreed the actions in reply to the scrutiny report. Full Council on 16 December 2010 received both the Scrutiny report and cabinet response for noting.

#### **Monitoring Scrutiny Reviews**

3.5 The usual arrangements for monitoring the outcome of scrutiny recommendations are:

- a) The decision-makers, to whom the recommendations are addressed, are asked to submit a formal response to the recommendations normally within two months, including an action plan and timetable for implementation with named contact officers to action the recommendations.
- b) The report of the scrutiny review and response from the decision-makers are then reported together to full Council for information.
- c) The parent Overview and Scrutiny Committee normally receives a report of progress against the agreed recommendations, six months after the decisions are made.
- d) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee will at that stage determine if any further monitoring is required; whether a progress report is required after a further six months or one year. Otherwise the Committee may resolve that no more monitoring is necessary.

3.6 A summary of the Scrutiny Recommendations and replies plus progress in implementation appears at Appendix 1 to this report.

#### **Update on current work on 20mph speed limits**

3.7 **Speed Limit Review (A&B Class Roads)** recommended several amendments of the speed limits on various stretches of A&B class roads, including a reduction from 30mph to 20mph on Nevill Road, Hove and Trafalgar Road/Church Road, Portslade. At the CMM on 4 October 2011 permission to consult on implementing some of these recommendations was obtained. These proposed changes are intended to increase safety within the vicinity of schools and should be implemented, subject to the consultation within this financial year.

**3.8 Speed Limit Review, 20mph Speed Limits** recommended 3 pilot 20mph areas encompassing schools and the surrounding residential roads. Permission to consult in respect of two of these areas was granted at CMM on 4 October. These were the schemes in Portslade and the Stanford area. The third scheme in the vicinity of Saltdean Primary School was considered too small and unlikely to be of great benefit as a small isolated 20mph area.

The pilot areas are intended to provide an opportunity to trial the use of various materials, signing, surface treatments etc. in order to inform decisions when implementing further schemes in the future. In the longer term they will provide information on their effectiveness in terms of affect on speed, road safety and traffic flow/displacement effect. Once again, subject to consultation, these measures should be implemented during this financial year.

The cost of implementing these pilot areas is likely to be approx £80k funded from LTP3.

**3.9 The scoping exercise for a large central 20mph limit area within the City** is looking at the feasibility of introducing larger 20mph limit areas including assessing costs. The initial research will be in respect of creating a substantial City centre 20mph limit, with a view to incrementally extending it take in more of the City's residential and commercial areas. This exercise takes into account the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee's recommendations, including recommendation 13 '*That 20mph areas are identified as quickly as possible and that adequate funding is prioritised and set aside for implementing these initiatives as part of the Local Transport Plan (3)*'. It is anticipated that the scoping work can be completed during this financial year.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

4.1 Over a period of around 6 months the scrutiny panel spoke with representatives from a wide range of organisations to gather evidence and opinion on 20 mph speed limits/zones. The Panel visited Portsmouth City Council, another local authority to gather information.

#### **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. This will be used to cover the costs of consultation and implementation.

Finance Officer Consulted: Karen Brookshaw

Date: 31/05/2011

The work on all the A&B Road reductions will cost approximately £20k, although the cost of the 20mph element will be a fraction of the overall costs involved. Example costs include:

An entry point to the 20 mph limit will cost approx £1k (signs and posts £634, surfacing treatment £330, lining/roundels £80) and repeater signs £27,

although the number of repeater signs required will depend upon the length of road in question.

The overall cost of the pilot areas in Portslade and Stanford will be approx £80k.

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.

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

Legal Officer consulted: Carl Hearsom                      Date: 1 June 2011

Equalities Implications:

5.3 There are no direct equalities implications

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 None

Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 None

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 The report contains no risks and supports the recommendations of the Scrutiny panel.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 None

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

**Appendices:**

1. Recommendations of the 20 mph speed limits/zones Scrutiny Review, the CMM response and progress against the recommendations.

**Documents in Members' Rooms**

1. Speed Limit Review A&B Class Roads
2. Speed Limit Review, 20mph Speed Limits

**Background Documents**

1. Report and Recommendations of the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee