

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT AND ENVIRONMENT

DATE: 10 OCTOBER 2012

REPORT OF: JASON RUSSELL, ASST DIRECTOR
HIGHWAYSSUBJECT: SPEED LIMIT A244 LEATHERHEAD ROAD/WARREN LANE,
OXSHOTT**KEY ISSUE/DECISION:**

To consider whether to endorse the Elmbridge Local Committee's recommendation that the speed limit on the A244 Leatherhead Road/Warren Lane, Oxshott, be changed from 40mph to 30mph. Under the scheme of delegation, the authority to endorse a new speed limit, which is in discord with the policy, rests with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment.

DETAILS:**Business Case**

1. At its meeting on 10 September 2012, the Elmbridge Local Committee received a report setting out the outcome of the speed limit assessments for the A244 Leatherhead Road/Warren Lane, Oxshott. A copy of the report presented to the Local Committee is attached as Appendix 1.
2. Surrey County Council has a speed management policy for determining and applying speed limits on the public highway. This was updated in 2005 to reflect the changes arising from the Department of Transport's revised speed limit guidance. Assessed against these criteria the personal injury collision rate has been calculated as 84.
3. Tier 1 roads such as the A244 would have a preferred speed limit of 50 or 60 mph depending upon the rate of personal injury collisions per 100 million vehicle km. 50 mph for more than 35 and 60 mph for less than 35 personal injury collisions per 100 million vehicle km.
4. As this section of A244 has a collision rate of over 35 Policy states that a speed limit of 50mph should be in force. However the existing speed limit of 40mph is already set below this.

Road	Current limit	Committee preferred limit	'Preferred limit' under policy	Report recommendation
A244 Leatherhead Road	40 mph	30 mph	50 mph	30 mph
A244 Warren Lane	40 mph	30 mph	50 mph	30 mph

5. It is not recommended to increase the existing speed limit to 50mph, as this would be contrary to the views of both Surrey Police and the Safety Camera Partnership.

6. The Local Committee resolved to:

RECOMMEND to the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment that:

(a) the 30mph speed limit on A244 Leatherhead Road be extended from the existing 30mph termination point near the junction with Spinneycroft, south-eastwards to a point approximately 520 metres northwest of the roundabout at Oaklawn Road;

(b) the 30mph speed limit on A244 Warren Lane be extended from the existing 30mph termination point northwards to the junction with Heath Road.

7. Under the scheme of delegation, the authority to endorse a new speed limit, which is in discord with the policy, rests with the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment.

8. Vehicular speeds, the casualty record and safety concerns should be reviewed 12 months after installation of the revised limit and in the event of the new speed limit being ineffective, the policy recommends that remedial action be considered. This review may be needed earlier if there are extenuating circumstances that warrant prompt action

Consultation

9. An extension of the existing 30mph limit is strongly supported by both the Safety Camera Partnership and Surrey Police and would aid in the introduction of the mobile enforcement site and allow drivers to better regulate their speed before entering the village.

10. It should be noted that Surrey County Council is currently looking at the provision of a hard-standing area, for use by a Police mobile enforcement camera, in the eastern verge just north of the junction with Charlwood Drive. This is within the existing 30mph speed limit. Surrey County Council's Safety Camera Partnership has requested that two advanced warning signs be erected on each approach to warn drivers.

Financial and value for money implications

11. £20,000 had been allocated to implement the speed limit extensions, Vehicle Activated Signs and a design for the hardstanding, from local committee budgets. The cost of making the Traffic Regulation Order, installation of the required signs, Vehicle Activated Signs and a design for the hard standing will be in the region of £20,000.

Equalities implications

12. There are no equalities implications arising from this decision.

Risk management implications

13. Objections to the proposal may be received when the speed limit order is advertised.

Climate change/carbon emissions implications

14. The County Council attaches great importance to being environmentally aware and wishes to show leadership in cutting carbon emissions and tackling climate change.
15. The proposed speed limit changes should have a positive impact on emissions as vehicle speeds are reduced.

Legal implications/legislative requirements

16. The reduced speed limits will be introduced through the making of a Speed Limit Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children implications

17. There are no Corporate Parenting or Looked After Children implications for this decision.

Section 151 Officer commentary

18. The Section 151 officer confirms that all material, financial and business issues and risks have been considered in this report.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that:

- (a) the 30mph speed limit on A244 Leatherhead Road be extended from the existing 30mph termination point near the junction with Spinneycroft, south-eastwards to a point approximately 520 metres northwest of the roundabout at Oaklawn Road;
- (b) the 30mph speed limit on A244 Warren Lane be extended from the existing 30mph termination point northwards to the junction with Heath Road.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The current County policy permits a 50mph for this type of road however following Elmbridge Local Committee's recommendation to reduce the existing 40 mph to 30 mph, strong support has also been received from Surrey County Council's Safety Camera Partnership, and Surrey Police. A reduction in speed limit would aid in the introduction of the mobile enforcement site and allow drivers to better regulate their speed before entering the village.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

If the Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment approves the recommendation then the reduced speed limits on the A244 Leatherhead Road/Warren Lane, Oxshott, will be advertised with any objections considered by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Area Team Manager. Dependant on the objections received, and if these can be resolved, then the Speed Limit Order will be made and the scheme implemented.

Contact Officer:

Nick Healey, Area Team Manager (NE) email nick.healey@surreycc.gov.uk

Consulted:

Elmbridge Local Committee
Surrey Police
Surrey County Council's Safety Camera Partnership

Informed:

None

Sources/background papers:

Elmbridge Local Committee Report, 10 September 2012 – A244 Leatherhead Road/Warren Lane, Oxshott.
