



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)

B2126 COLES LANE, OCKLEY - EXTENSION OF 40MPH SPEED LIMIT

7TH JUNE 2012

KEY ISSUE

To confirm agreement to extend the 40mph speed limit in Coles Lane, Ockley from the existing terminal point near the railway bridge westwards to the A24 Capel By-Pass.

SUMMARY

In March 2006, Mole Valley Local Committee agreed to reduce the speed limit on the B2126 Coles Lane between the A24 Capel By-Pass and the A29 Stane Street from the national speed limit to 40mph. When the scheme was implemented in 2009, the section of Coles Lane between the railway bridge and the A24 was omitted from the speed limit order and therefore has remained at the national speed limit. It will be necessary to make a new speed limit order to rectify this, the effect of which will be to extend the 40mph from its existing terminal point to the A24, as originally proposed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Mole Valley) is asked to:

- (i) Agree that the speed limit in Coles Lane, Ockley between a point 20m west of the railway bridge and its junction with the A24 Capel By-Pass be changed to 40mph;

- (ii) Authorise the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit change, and subject to no objections being upheld, the Order be made; and
- (iii) Authorise delegation of authority to the Area Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee, and the local Divisional Member, to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 In March 2006, Mole Valley Local Committee agreed to reduce the speed limit on the B2126 Coles Lane between the A24 Capel By-Pass and the A29 Stane Street. The proposed reduction was from the national speed limit to 40mph. The speed survey carried out at the time recorded mean speeds of 39.9mph. Under both the speed limit policy that applied at that time and the existing policy, the lower speed limit could be progressed as the recorded mean speed was below the preferred new speed limit.
- 1.2 When the scheme was implemented in 2009, the section of Coles Lane between the railway bridge and the A24 was omitted from the speed limit order and therefore has remained at the national speed limit.
- 1.3 A plan showing the existing speed limits is attached as **Annex 1**.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 In Surrey's speed limit policy, the minimum length of road over which a speed limit should apply before changing to a higher or lower limit is given as 600m. This is to ensure against too many speed limit changes that could be confusing to motorists.
- 2.2 The length of Coles Lane remaining at the national speed limit is approximately 420m. The current situation in Coles Lane does not comply with the speed limit policy and could lead to driver confusion and non-compliance with the posted speed limits. Therefore it is proposed that this section of road is changed to 40mph, bringing the total length of 40mph speed limit in Coles Lane to 1.9km, as was originally approved by Local Committee in March 2006.

3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.1 The Police have been consulted and have no objection to the proposal to extend the existing 40mph speed limit in Coles Lane from the existing terminal point westwards to the A24.

- 3.2 It will be necessary to install speed limit repeater signs along the proposed length of reduced speed limit. If the verge doesn't form part of the public highway at any of the locations where it is required to erect the repeater signs, it will be necessary to obtain agreement from the landowners.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 It is estimated that the cost of implementing the speed limit reduction in Coles Lane would not exceed £10,000. This includes the cost of advertising and making the speed limit order and the associated terminal and repeater signing.
- 4.2 At the March 2012 meeting, Local Committee approved an allocation of £10,000 for this scheme from the Integrated Transport Scheme budget for 2012/13.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Highway Service is mindful of its needs within this area and attempts to treat all users of the public highway with equality and understanding.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 A correctly signed speed limit will enable the Police to enforce the new speed limit within targeted speed management campaigns.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 In 2006 Local Committee approved the reduction of the speed limit in Coles Lane between the A29 and the A24. When the speed limit order was made, the section of Coles Lane between the railway bridge and the A24 was omitted with the result that a short length of Coles Lane remained at the national speed limit.
- 7.2 This report recommends that a new speed limit order is advertised and made to rectify this omission. The effect of this will be to extend the 40mph speed limit from the railway bridge to the A24.

8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 To implement the Local Committee's original intention that the speed limit in Coles Lane between the A29 and the A24 be set at 40mph.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 The speed limit order will be advertised and, subject to there being no objections, the order will be made and the revised speed limit implemented.

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