



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE REIGATE AND BANSTEAD

EXTENSION OF 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT LOWER PARK ROAD, CHIPSTEAD

24TH SEPTEMBER 2007

KEY ISSUE

To consider implementing an extension to the existing 30mph speed limit from Outwood Lane to a point approximately 40 metres west of the junction with Park Road.

SUMMARY

Complaints have been received from residents of Lower Park Road regarding the speed of traffic travelling from Holly Lane to the junction with Outwood Lane. There is no footpath along this section of road and residents of the few houses in this location have to walk in the road to reach Chipstead station and the local shops.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to agree that:

- (i) Subject to the statutory procedures the 30mph speed limit is extended into Lower Park Road from Outwood Lane to a point being the western boundary of the Banstead Woods Car Park.
- (ii) Consideration and resolution of any objections received are delegated to the East Area Highways Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Complaints have been received from a resident of Lower Park Road regarding the speed of traffic approaching the mini-roundabout at the junction of Lower Park Road and Outwood Lane. There are three houses just to the northwest of the roundabout, which abut the highway with no footway protecting pedestrians wishing to walk to Chipstead Station and the shops.
- 1.2 Although no injury collisions have occurred along this section of road residents are concerned regarding safety as a garden wall has already been damaged.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Speed surveys were undertaken on 3rd September 2007 (in both directions) by the property known as Grove End. The results were as follows:

Direction	Highest Speed	Average
South-eastbound (downhill)	63mph	37mph
North-westbound (uphill)	45mph	35mph

As can be seen from the above table the average speed of vehicles was 37mph and 35mph.

3 SPEED LIMIT POLICY

- 3.1 Surrey County Council's policy for determining speed limits states that rural roads with frontage development of at least three houses per 100 metres should have a maximum speed of 30mph.
- 3.2 The policy also states that the aim when determining speed limits is that the local speed limit should not be substantially higher than the average speed driven. In this instance the average speed is 37mph southeast bound and 35mph northwest bound and as such this meets the County's policy.

4 OPTIONS

4.1 A Reduction in speed limit

A reduction in speed to 30 mph at this point will not only assist in slowing traffic past the few houses situated near the junction with Outwood Lane but also reduce the speed of traffic past the entrance and exit to the Banstead Woods car park and the junction with Park Road.

4.2 Physical Traffic Calming

Traffic calming measures could reduce the speed of traffic in Lower Park Road, however, the cost of installing traffic calming is likely to be high and the scheme would have to be prioritised with other existing schemes. Initial investigations suggest there would be little scope to include a scheme for Lower Park Road within the current programme. Due to the lack of street lighting and prevailing speed limit, speed humps would not be suitable and alternative measures would need to be identified.

4.3 Additional traffic signs

Additional signs could also to be installed to reinforce the amended speed limit. An additional 'roundabout ahead' sign and SLOW markings have been ordered.

5 CONSULTATIONS

5.1 Surrey Police have been consulted on the proposals and are in support of a reduced speed limit on the approach to the mini-roundabout.

5.2 A comment was received regarding the repainting of the SLOW markings and give-way lines at the junction of Park Road and Lower Park Road. This work has been ordered in addition to an additional SLOW marking and should be completed in September.

5.3 A copy of this report has been sent to the local County and Ward Members and their comments will be reported at the Local Committee.

6 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY

6.1 The cost of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) would be in the region of £2,500 including the installation of reflective signs. As there is no street lighting in the vicinity there is no need to install illuminated signs.

6.2 The funding for this scheme will come from the 2007/08 Transport Plan Funding for Road Safety Improvements.

7 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no equalities and diversity implications

8 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Reducing the speed limit will greatly assist in slowing vehicle speeds and allow enforcement by the Police.

9 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 Due to the complaints regarding the speed of traffic passing the houses on the approach to Outwood Lane, a speed survey was undertaken which indicated that the average speed would meet the requirements for a 30 mph speed limit.

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to agree that:

- (i) Subject to the statutory procedures the 30mph speed limit is extended into Lower Park Road from Outwood Lane to a point being the western boundary of the Banstead Woods Car Park.
- (ii) Consideration and resolution of any objections received are delegated to the East Area Highways Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members.

10 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 There are three houses on the north side of Lower Park Road, which abut the highway with no footway. Residents wishing to walk to the shops or station have no protection from passing vehicles. It is therefore considered to be safer if the speed of traffic is reduced in this location.

11 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 11.1 If the Local Committee approves this speed limit reduction, Surrey County Council's Legal Department will be asked to progress the Traffic Regulation Order. This will include a full consultation with the Emergency Services.
- 11.2 If no objections are received when the Traffic Regulation Order is advertised the 30mph Speed limit Traffic Regulation Order will be made and the relevant signs erected on site.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Speed survey results

ANNEX A – LOCATION PLAN

