



REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (RUNNYMEDE)
CRICKETERS LANE, ENGLEFIELD GREEN
SPEED LIMIT REVIEW
6 JUNE 2008

KEY ISSUE

To report the findings of a speed limit assessment for Cricketers Lane, Englefield Green.

SUMMARY

In response to concerns expressed by local residents, a speed limit assessment has recently been undertaken for the section of Cricketers Lane (Englefield Green) that is currently subject to National Speed Limit (60mph). This assessment also examined the short length of Bishopsgate Road between its junctions with St Judes Road and Cricketers Lane.

Having assessed the sites against Surrey County Council's Speed Management Policy and consulted Surrey Police, it is recommended that the speed limit be reduced on both sections of road from National Speed Limit (60mph) to 30mph.

The plan at **Annex 1** shows the proposed speed limit changes.

ELECTORAL DIVISION AND MEMBER

Englefield Green – Councillor Marisa Heath

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Runnymede) is asked to agree that:

- a) **authority is given to advertise a notice in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984 the effects of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit changes shown in Annex A; and subject to no objections being maintained the order be made;**
- b) **that the Local Highways Manager be authorised, in consultation with the Chairman and Divisional Member, to consider any objections received;**

1. Introduction and background

- 1.1 The D3111 Cricketers Lane is a relatively narrow 2-way road that runs along the western side of the village green in Englefield Green. Whilst it carries low volumes of vehicles and there is limited residential development, it has no footways and there is a significant amount of pedestrian activity. This is principally generated by people using the village green on one side of the road and a children's' play area on the opposite side. On-street parking also takes place along a section of the road.
- 1.2 At present part of Cricketers Lane is subject to a 30mph speed limit whilst the remainder of the road is subject to National Speed Limit (60mph). However, residents feel that the full length of the road should have a 30mph speed limit. They are especially concerned for the safety of young children who regularly use the village green and the play area.
- 1.3 In response to these concerns, Surrey County Council has carried out a speed limit assessment for Cricketers Lane.
- 1.4 The short section of D3111 Bishopsgate Road between Cricketers Lane and St Judes Road, currently subject to National Speed Limit (60mph), has also been considered as part of the assessment. Maintaining a consistent speed limit between this section of road and Cricketers Lane would minimise the number of points where speed limit changes take place and therefore reduce sign clutter.

2. Analysis

- 2.1 Surrey County Council's policy for determining speed limits involves a 4-step process consisting of:
 - Determining the length of road(s) to be assessed.
 - Determining the "preferred speed limit" by comparing the site against a hierarchy of preferred speed limits for different categories of road. Where lengths of road do not fit easily into a category a compromise needs to be made based on local conditions and in consultation with Surrey Police.
 - Comparing the "preferred limit" to existing vehicle speeds to assess the likelihood of driver compliance with the preferred limit. If existing speeds are at, close or below the "preferred limit" then changes would be considered appropriate. If existing speeds are above the "preferred limit" then either an appropriate higher limit is recommended, the existing limit retained, or speed management measures introduced to reduce speeds closer to the "preferred limit".
 - Monitoring of any limit introduced.

Any possible changes to speed limits are considered in close liaison with Surrey Police (who are responsible for the enforcement of speed limits in Surrey) so that joint agreement can be reached on the practicality of the proposed speed limit.

ITEM 9

The results of the assessment for Cricketers Lane and the short length of Bishopsgate Road are summarised in the table below:

Location	Category of road	“Preferred speed limit” (mph)	Existing average vehicle speed (mph)	Recommended speed limit
Cricketers Lane	Rural – village/partial village	30/40mph	25mph	30mph
Bishopsgate Road (St Judes Road – Cricketers Lane)	Rural – village/partial village	30/40mph	30mph	30mph

Due to its characteristics, Cricketers Lane does not easily fit into a category and therefore an argument could be made for a “preferred speed limit” of either 30mph or 40mph. However, on the basis of local conditions and existing vehicle speeds, Surrey Police have indicated that a 30mph speed limit would be more appropriate. This would also help to maintain a consistent speed limit over the complete length of the road rather than introducing a short isolated length of road with a 40mph speed limit.

Due to its short length and the level of existing vehicle speeds, the Police have also indicated that they have no objection to the introduction of a 30mph on the section of Bishopsgate Road between St Judes Road and Cricketers Lane. This will minimise the number of points where speed limits take place and therefore reduce sign clutter.

3. Consultation

- 3.1 The Divisional Member fully supports the proposed speed limit changes.
- 3.2 Surrey Police have been consulted and have no objection to the proposed speed limit changes. However, the Casualty Reduction Officer has indicated that practical considerations mean that it would be difficult to safely carry out enforcement of the new speed limits using mobile enforcement equipment.
- 3.3 Subject to the proposed speed limit changes being approved, public notices will be advertised in the local press and erected on site as part of statutory processes. There will then be a period when comments can be submitted in response to the proposals.

4. Value for money and financial implications

- 4.1 The cost of advertising and implementing the recommended speed limit changes is approximately £3,000.
- 4.2 This cost will be met from within the budgetary provision made for Traffic Management Low Cost Measures as part of the 2008/09 Local Transport Plan devolved capital allocation (as detailed in the Transportation Update report being considered at this Committee meeting).

5. Equality and diversity implications

5.1 None

6. Crime and disorder implications

6.1 Crime and disorder surveys have identified speeding as a major concern for residents in Surrey. Surrey County Council is committed to working in partnership with Surrey Police to tackle issues of speeding and to improve road safety. The proposed reduction in speed limits together with Surrey County Council's wider speed management programme will contribute towards making Surrey's roads safer for all users.

7. Conclusion and recommendations

7.1 In response to a request from local residents a speed limit assessment has been carried out for the section of Cricketers Lane (Englefield Green) current subject to National Speed Limit (60mph). As a result of this assessment, it is recommended that a 30mph speed limit be introduced in Cricketers Lane and the short length of Bishopsgate Road between St Judes Road and Cricketers Lane.

8. Reasons for recommendations

8.1 The recommended speed limit changes have been made following the findings of a speed limit assessment and consultation with Surrey Police.

9. What happens next

9.1 A Traffic Regulation Order will be advertised and public notices detailing the proposed speed limit changes will be displayed in the local press and on site.

9.2 Subject to no irresolvable objections being received, a Traffic Regulation Order will then be made and the appropriate signs installed to indicate the new speed limits.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None