



## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)

**C243 GRESHAM ROAD, STAINES**

**PROPOSED 20MPH ZONE AND TRAFFIC CALMING**

**29 SEPTEMBER 2008**

### KEY ISSUE & SUMMARY

To consider the introduction of a 20mph zone on C243 Gresham Road between the junction of C248 Kingston Road and 50m west of the junction with Chiltern Close and on Chiltern Close together with additional traffic calming on C243 Gresham Road between the junction of C248 Kingston Road and 50m west of the junction with Chiltern Close.

### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Local Committee (Spelthorne) is asked to agree that:**

- (i) the proposed 20mph zone on C243 Gresham Road and Chiltern Close and additional traffic calming on C243 Gresham Road as shown on Drg. No. 4370-01 at **Annex A** be approved;
- (ii) the proposed 20mph zone on C243 Gresham Road, Staines between C248 Kingston Road and 50m west of Chiltern Close and Chiltern Close is advertised by public notice;
- (iii) the proposed traffic calming on C243 Gresham Road, Staines is advertised by public notice;
- (iv) subject to no objection being received these restrictions are implemented;

- (v) if an objection to either proposal is received before the end of the objection period, it is determined by the Local Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman and the Local Electoral Divisional Member; and
- (vi) construction of the proposal is funded from the 2008/09 Local Transport Plan budget at a cost of £25,000.

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Gresham Road is currently subject to a 30mph speed limit and traffic calming already exists throughout the whole length of the road.
- 1.2 Staines Preparatory School and the Surrey County Council School Travel Advisor have highlighted concerns over perceived vehicle speeds and driver behaviour outside the school area.
- 1.3 Gresham Road can be used as a “rat run” for motorists wishing to enter/leave Staines Town Centre area.

## 2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 During the period 1 January 2005 to 30 June 2008 there was no personal injury collision on Gresham Road or Chiltern Close over the proposed length of the 20mph zone.
- 2.2 In order to comply with SCC policy for the introduction of 20mph speed limits or zones, the average recorded speed must be 20mph or less. The average speed outside Staines Preparatory School for vehicles heading towards Kingston Road during November/December 2007 is 26.3mph. The proposed extra traffic calming would help to lower the average speed in accordance with SCC policy.
- 2.3 A feasibility study to incorporate additional traffic calming and the introduction of a 20mph zone on Gresham Road between the junction of Kingston Road and 50m west of the junction with Chiltern Close and on Chiltern Close has been developed as shown at **Annex A**. The scheme includes an extra set of speed cushions and a traffic island in addition to new 20mph signage.

## 3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 The use of road tables at either end of the zone would be the most effective way of reducing speed. However, preliminary costing revealed that this option would not be cost effective with the total cost of the scheme estimated to be £80,000.
- 3.2 The most cost effective method of reducing speed at this location would be to introduce a new set of speed cushions outside No 11 Gresham Road and alter the existing cushions outside the school by replacing the centre cushion of three with a traffic island. Currently, some drivers straddle the existing centre cushion and the introduction of a traffic island would prevent this and reduce vehicle speeds.

#### **4 CONSULTATIONS**

- 4.1 The Police and Staines Preparatory School have been consulted informally on the proposal and support its implementation.

#### **5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The design and implementation costs to introduce a 20mph zone and additional traffic calming as shown in **Annex A** could be funded from the Local Transport Plan budget. The cost of the works is estimated to be £25,000.

#### **6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no implications.

#### **7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 There is currently a risk of traffic driving at inappropriate or excessive speed along Gresham Road.

#### **8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 The average speeds outside the school area do not meet the SCC guidelines for the introduction of a 20mph zone. Therefore, it is necessary to install additional traffic calming to reduce the speed to within the recommended guidelines to allow a 20mph zone to be implemented.

#### **9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The introduction of 20mph zone would further reduce the risk of collisions outside the school area within Gresham Road.

#### **10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 10.1 Local residents and the school will be consulted after which detailed design will be finalised.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

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