

Item 21

**SURREY HEATH SPEED MANAGEMENT MEASURES
2007/08**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
SURREY HEATH**

8th MARCH 2007

KEY ISSUE:

Establishing an approved list of sites in Surrey Heath where the 'Speed Indicating Device' (SID), road safety posters and vehicle-activated signs (VAS) will be used on a rotational basis during 2007/08 as part of a targeted Speed Management Programme.

SUMMARY:

The Local Committee has previously agreed predefined sites around the Borough where road safety posters, SID and VAS are used on a rotational basis to try and reduce vehicle speeds and improve road safety.

Surrey Police support the programme by attending sites where the measures are deployed to provide driver education and, where necessary, enforcement action.

The measures have proved popular with residents and Members. It is therefore proposed that their use is continued.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Surrey Heath Local Committee is asked to approve:

- I. the list of sites for use of road safety posters in 2007/08 attached as Annex 1.
- II. the list of sites for use of the Speed Indication Device in 2007/08 attached as Annex 2
- III. the list of sites for use of VAS in 2007/08 attached as Annex 3

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. Unfortunately, there are a numerous roads across the Borough where complaints are received about speeding vehicles. However, at many of these locations the criteria are not met for the installation of a permanent speed camera and the introduction of physical traffic calming measures would either be inappropriate or difficult to justify.
2. Surrey County Council has therefore developed a Speed Management Programme which aims to influence driver behaviour and improve road safety at locations in Surrey Heath through the use of the following measures:
 - Vehicle activated signs (which display the speed limit when an approaching vehicle exceeds a set trigger speed).
 - Road safety posters (which can be attached to lamp columns).
 - Trailer mounted Speed Indicating Device (SID) – which is capable of recording and displaying vehicles speeds.
3. In recent years the Local Committee has agreed a programme of sites where these measures have been deployed on a rotational basis. Moving the measures between locations has the advantage of helping to maintain their impact whilst also allowing a larger number of sites to benefit from their use.
4. The use of the measures has been supported by Surrey Police and the local Casualty Reduction Officer has targeted sites for education/enforcement action when posters and signs are displayed.
5. The initiative contributes towards meeting the objectives of the Surrey County Council/Surrey Police joint Road Safety Strategy and has proved popular with both Members and local residents. It is therefore proposed that a further programme of sites is agreed for the use of road safety posters, SID and VAS during 2007/08.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

6. The sites proposed for the use of road safety posters during 2007/08 are attached as Annex 1. The posters will be rotated between sites on a 4-week cycle. There are sufficient posters available to allow them to be displayed at 2 sites simultaneously.
7. The sites proposed for the use of SID are attached as Annex 2. Surrey Police have agreed to transport the SID between the proposed sites.
8. The sites proposed for the use of VAS are attached as Annex 3. The signs will be rotated between the sites and displayed for a period up to 8 weeks.
9. The sites selected for inclusion in the programme are subject to regular complaints about speeding from either local residents or Members.

10. Due to current resource levels and the impact of other priorities, the measures have not been deployed at all the sites agreed as part of the 2006/07 programme. As such, the outstanding sites from 2006/07 have been given priority within the proposed programme for 2007/08.
11. Surrey County Council currently has 6 VAS for use in Surrey Heath. Although the signs will predominantly be rotated around the sites detailed in 'Annex 3', two of the signs will also be available for community sites. The assessment of requests from residents and the programming of community sites will be carried out by Surrey County Council in consultation with Surrey Police.
12. The existing VAS are currently powered by batteries that require recharging approximately every 5-7 days (depending on how often the sign is activated). Changing the batteries is therefore a reasonably labour intensive task. As a result, there have previously been periods where the signs have been at sites but have not operated because the batteries need recharging.
13. Following consultation with the manufacturer of the signs, it is proposed that the signs will be fitted with solar panels to help overcome this problem. This will allow solar power to be used to recharge the batteries.

CONSULTATIONS

14. The Speed Management Programme has been developed in conjunction with Surrey Police's Casualty Reduction Officer for Surrey Heath, who has agreed to target sites for education and enforcement action when the signs and posters are displayed. This coordinated approach will help to increase the effectiveness of the measures in deterring drivers from speeding.
15. It should be noted that the Casualty Reduction Officer will continue to attend other sites across the Borough, and not just exclusively those sites targeted by the Speed Management Programme.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

16. Allowing for the maintenance and rotation of the posters and VAS, it is estimated that the total cost of operating the speed management programme over a 12-month period will be approximately £10,000. This cost will initially be met from the Aids to Movement revenue budget but the service will subsequently seek to offset it against other sources of funding.
17. Apart from basic servicing of the trailer itself there are no funding or maintenance implications with regard to 'SID.' Surrey Police will transport the device to individual sites and meet all associated costs.
18. It is proposed that, subject to agreement, the cost of converting the VAS to use solar power will be met from the Local Committee's allowance (this issue is being considered separately at this meeting).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

19. Surrey has embraced the concept of sustainable development, which is the foundation of the County Council's Local Transport Plan, and it is committed to the vision of making Surrey a better place. The proposed Speed Management Programme will contribute towards making Surrey's roads safer for all users.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

20. The Surrey Heath Crime and Disorder strategy seeks to continually improve the safety of the community. The proposed Speed Management Programme, which aims to reduce vehicles speeds and improve road safety, will contribute to the objectives of the strategy.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

21. There are no foreseeable 'Equalities Implications.'

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

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Annex.

- 1 Proposed Road Safety Poster Sites for 2007/08.
- 2 Proposed sites for Speed Indication Device (SID) for 2007/08.
3. Proposed Vehicle Activated Signs sites for 2007/08.