

A322 BAGSHOT ROAD AND LOCKFIELD DRIVE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SPEED LIMIT

19 MARCH 2003

KEY ISSUE:

To agree to an extension of the existing 30mph speed limits on A322 Bagshot Road near Cemetery Pales and Lockfield Drive near Kirkland Avenue.

SUMMARY:

The Committee's approval is sought for an extension of the existing 30mph speed limit on A322 Bagshot Road and Lockfield Drive, in order to improve visibility of the signs and improve road safety by lowering vehicle speeds.

CONSULTATIONS:

The Police have been consulted on the proposals and have no objections.

The public will be consulted as part of the legal process when the proposals are advertised in the local press, on street and on the Council's website.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree

- (i) to advertise a Traffic Regulation Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to extend the existing 30mph speed limits in A322 Bagshot Road and Lockfield Drive as shown on Drawing Nos. 11438 and 11439 respectively; and
- (ii) that authority be delegated to the Local Transportation Manager, in consultation with the Chairman and Divisional Member, to consider and determine any objections and to make the order.

Item 15

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

The A322 Bagshot Road links Guildford in the south with Bracknell and the M4 motorway in the north. It passes through the residential areas of Brookwood and Knaphill, where the speed limit is 30mph. To the south of this area the road is mainly non-residential and the speed limit is 40mph. The speed limit changes between the junctions of Bagshot Road with Cemetery Pales and Connaught Road. New traffic signals have recently been introduced at both of these junctions.

2 Lockfield Drive links Woking town centre and Knaphill, passing around the large residential area of Goldsworth Park. A 50mph speed limit is in force throughout most of its length. This changes to 30mph near its northern end, at its junction with Kirkland Avenue. A number of personal injury accidents have occurred at this junction, and there are significant numbers of pedestrians crossing Lockfield Drive in this vicinity.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

A322 Bagshot Road

It is proposed to extend the 30mph speed limit on Bagshot Road southward for a distance of 75 metres, as shown on Drawing No. 11438, Annex A. The current 30mph signs are poorly positioned for northbound drivers, particularly as they are now immediately beyond the newly-installed traffic signals at the Bagshot Road/Cemetery Pales junction. By moving the signs southward, they will be more conspicuous, and will encourage northbound drivers to reduce their speed before reaching the new traffic signals. For similar reasons, it is proposed to extend the 30mph speed limit into Cemetery Pales

Lockfield Drive

- It is proposed to extend the 30mph speed limit on Lockfield Drive southwards by 160 metres, as shown on Drawing No11439, Annex B. The proposal is intended to reduce vehicle speeds in the vicinity of the Lockfield Drive/Kirkland Avenue junction which will in turn help to reduce the number and severity of accidents.
- Another reason for seeking to reduce vehicle speeds is the proposed introduction of a toucan crossing on Lockfield Drive, between Creston Avenue and Kirkland Avenue. This proposal is part of the Pegasus Project to assist children and adults walking to/from schools in the area and will be reported to the Committee in June 2003.
- Additionally, the pedestrian crossing point on Lockfield Drive, between Oakfield and Dunnets, will be brought within the 30mph speed limit. This may assist pedestrians to cross Lockfield Drive by virtue of lower speeds. A 30mph roundel will be painted on the carriageway at the point where the extended 30mph speed limit begins. (Previously this would have required permission from central government, but the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2002, which came into force last month, do away with this requirement).

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7 The cost of changing the speed limits, including advertising and making the orders, is estimated to be £2,000, and can be funded from the Aids to Movement budget for 2003/4.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

8 The proposed changes are expected to bring road safety benefits in terms of lower vehicle speeds which in turn will reduce the severity of potential vehicle/vehicle and vehicle/pedestrian conflicts.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

9 There are no crime and disorder implications.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

10 There are no equalities implications.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11 The change in the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on Bagshot Road, north of Cemetery Pales is poorly sited for northbound drivers. Extending the 30mph speed limit by 75 metres southwards will improve visibility of the signs and help to reduce vehicle speeds through the new traffic signal junction at Bagshot Road/Cemetery Pales.
- 12 Extending the 30mph speed limit 130 metres southwards on Lockfield Drive will encourage lower vehicle speeds in the vicinity of Kirkland Avenue, where an accident problem has been identified and just north of which a new toucan crossing is proposed.

Report by: Stephen Child, Local Transportation Manager, Woking

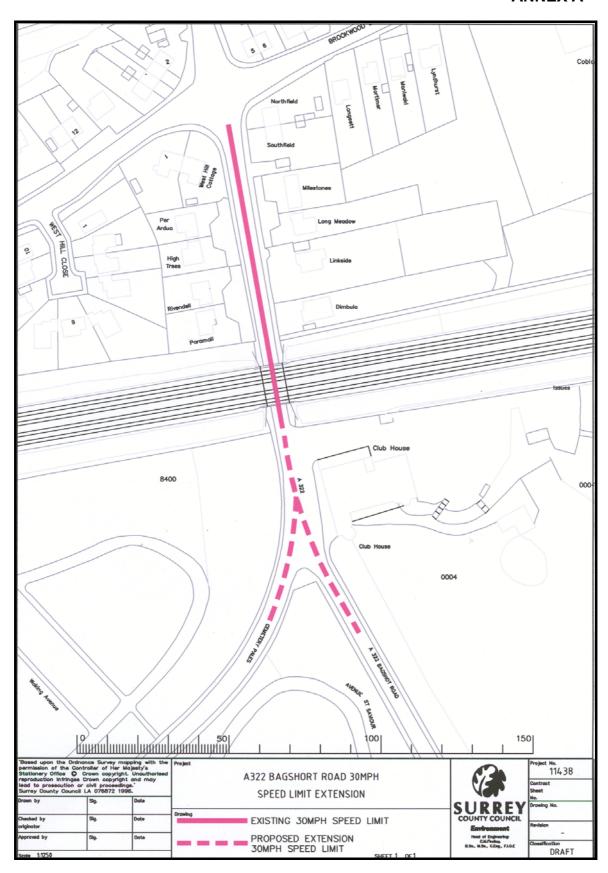
LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: John Masson

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 01483 518300

BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

Version No. 3 Date: 4/3/03 Time: 11.35 Initials: JM No of annexes: 2

ANNEX A



ANNEX B

