

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)

DATE: 6 JUNE 2016
 LEAD OFFICER: ZENA CURRY, AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER



SUBJECT: MASONS BRIDGE ROAD, REDHILL
 SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT

DIVISION: EARLSWOOD & REIGATE SOUTH

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

A speed limit assessment has been carried out in Masons Bridge Road following the process set out in Surrey's policy Setting Local Speed Limits. As a result of this assessment it is proposed that the existing 40mph speed limit in a section of Masons Bridge Road and also in a short section of Kings Mill Lane be reduced to 30mph. This report seeks approval for the changes to the speed limit in accordance with Surrey's policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:**The Local Committee (Reigate & Banstead) is asked to:**

- (i) Note the results of the speed limit assessment undertaken;
- (ii) Agree that, based upon the evidence, **the speed limit be reduced from 40mph to 30mph** in the section of Masons Bridge Road between the existing 30mph speed limit terminal signs 13m south of the southern boundary of 74 Masons Bridge Road and a point 25m south east of the eastern kerb line of Kings Mill Lane; and in the section of Kings Mill Lane between the junction with Masons Bridge Road and a point 40m north of that junction, in accordance with the current policy;
- (iii) Authorise the advertisement of a notice in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which will be to implement the proposed speed limit change, revoke any existing traffic orders necessary to implement the change, and, subject to no objections being upheld, that the order be made;
- (iv) Authorise delegation of authority to the Area Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman of the Local Committee and the local divisional member to resolve any objections received in connection with the proposal.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To enable changes to the speed limit on Masons Bridge Road and Kings Mill Lane in accordance with Surrey's speed limit policy.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Following representations from the divisional member for Earlswood & Reigate South it was agreed that Officers would carry out a speed limit assessment on Masons Bridge Road. The existing speed limits are shown in **Annex 1**.
- 1.2 Surrey's policy for determining speed limits was updated in July 2014. The aim of Surrey County Council is to set speed limits that are successful in managing vehicle speeds and are appropriate to the main use of the road. Reducing speeds successfully may reduce the likelihood and severity of collisions.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 A seven day automatic survey of vehicle speeds was carried out during November 2015 on Masons Bridge Road. The location of the speed survey is shown in **Annex 1**.
- 2.2 Existing mean speeds have been compared with the new speed limit requested by the Local Divisional Member. The speed limit policy sets thresholds below which speed limits can be changed by signs alone. The following thresholds apply to the roads being assessed:
- Rural village 40mph speed limit to 30mph speed limit – threshold = 35mph
- If the measured existing mean vehicles speeds are above the threshold then a lower speed limit cannot be implemented without consideration of supporting engineering measures.
- 2.3 Table 1 records the results of the speed survey, compares these with the current limit and the new limit requested by the divisional member for Earlswood & Reigate South and states whether they comply with the policy to reduce a speed limit by signs alone.

	Existing speed limit	Measured mean speeds		Requested speed limit	Complies with policy
		Northwest bound	Southeast bound		
Masons Bridge Road	40mph	30.5mph	31.4mph	30mph	Yes

Table 1: Comparison of Measured Speeds with Speed Limit

2.4 It is also proposed that the speed limit on the section of Kings Mill Lane between Masons Bridge Road and a point 40m north of the junction with Masons Bridge Road is reduced from 40mph to 30mph. Speeds on this road were not measured given the short distance of road in question. However it would be appropriate to reduce the speed limits on this short stretch of Kings Mill Lane on the approach to the junction with Masons Bridge Road.

2.5 A plan detailing the proposed new limits is attached as **Annex 2**.

2.6 Recorded personal injury collisions on the roads under consideration have been investigated. There have been 4 collisions during the 3 year period between March 2013 and February 2016. All of these collisions occurred at the junction of Masons Bridge Road and Kings Mill Lane and all resulted in slight injury.

2.7 For the three years of collision records investigated excessive speed was not considered to be a contributory factor in any of the 4 recorded collisions.

3. OPTIONS:

3.1 OPTION 1

Reduce the speed limit of the following roads from 40mph to 30mph:

Masons Bridge Road, between the existing 30mph terminal 13m south of the southern boundary of 74 Masons Bridge Road and a point 25m south east of Kings Mill Lane

Kings Mill Lane, between the junction with Masons Bridge Road and a point 40m north of the junction with Masons Bridge Road

3.2 OPTION 2

The speed limits remain unchanged.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Consultation has been carried out with Surrey Police, who support the proposed speed limit reductions as set out in Option 1 from a casualty reduction perspective.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 The cost of changing any speed limit includes legal advertisement costs associated with the statutory process, together with the costs of design and implementation.

5.2 The cost of these works will be in the region of £3,000. If the Committee support Option 1 as set out in paragraph 3.1, the works can be implemented this financial year, funded from the Local Committee's ITS budget for Small Safety Schemes.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 The Highway Service is mindful of its needs within this area and attempts to treat all users of the public highway with equality and understanding.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 This report addresses the concerns of those residents of Masons Bridge Road who have contacted the Highway Service regarding speed of traffic in the road.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below.
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report/ Set out below.

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

A well-managed highway network can reduce fear of crime and allow the Police greater opportunity to enforce speed controls.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

9.1 This report sets out the speed limit assessment conducted in Masons Bridge Road. It is recommended that Option 1 is implemented, in accordance with Surrey's Speed Limit Policy, as set out in paragraph 3.1.

9.2 Recommendations have been made based upon existing policy, in consultation with Surrey Police.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

10.1 Subject to funding being allocated from the 2016/17 ITS budget for Small Safety Schemes, the proposal to make a Speed Limit Order for the reduction in speed limit is advertised in the local press. Following the making of the Order, the contractor is instructed to install the necessary signing.

Contact Officer:

Philippa Gates, Traffic Engineer, 03456 009 009

Consulted:

Surrey Police

Annexes:

Annex 1 - Plan showing Speed Limit Proposals

Annex 2 – Plan showing Proposed New Speed Limits

Sources/background papers:

- Data from speed assessments carried out during November 2015 at Masons Bridge Road
 - Surrey Police response to consultation
 - Surrey County Council's Policy Setting Local Speed Limits (July 2014)
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