

RUNNymeDE BOROUGH COUNCIL AND
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



RUNNymeDE JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 19 SEPTEMBER 2018

LEAD OFFICER: ANDREW MILNE – AREA HIGHWAY MANAGER (NW)

SUBJECT: THORPE LEA ROAD/VICARAGE ROAD/NEW WICKHAM LANE – SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT

AREA(S) AFFECTED: EGHAM

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

To consider the results of a speed limit assessment undertaken for the sections of Thorpe Lea Road, Vicarage Road and New Wickham Lane that are currently subject to national speed limit (60mph).

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Runnymede Joint Committee is asked to agree that:

- (i) a notice is advertised in accordance with the Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effects of which would be to revoke any existing traffic orders necessary, and introduce the proposed reductions in speed limit in Thorpe Lea Road, Vicarage Road and New Wickham Lane shown in Annex 2; and
- (ii) any objections to the Traffic Regulation Order should be considered and resolved by the Area Team Manager for Highways in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee and the local Divisional Member, and that this issue only be returned to Committee if any objections prove insurmountable; and
- (iii) the Order be made once any objections have been considered and resolved.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

The recommendations have been made based upon the results of a speed limit assessment carried out in accordance with Surrey County Council's speed limit policy, and in consultation with Surrey Police.

The proposed reductions in speed limit will help provide more appropriate and consistent speed limits on roads in the local area.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 New Wickham Lane, Vicarage Road and Thorpe Lea Road are a series of B-class roads that intersect at a pair of small roundabouts just south of Egham.

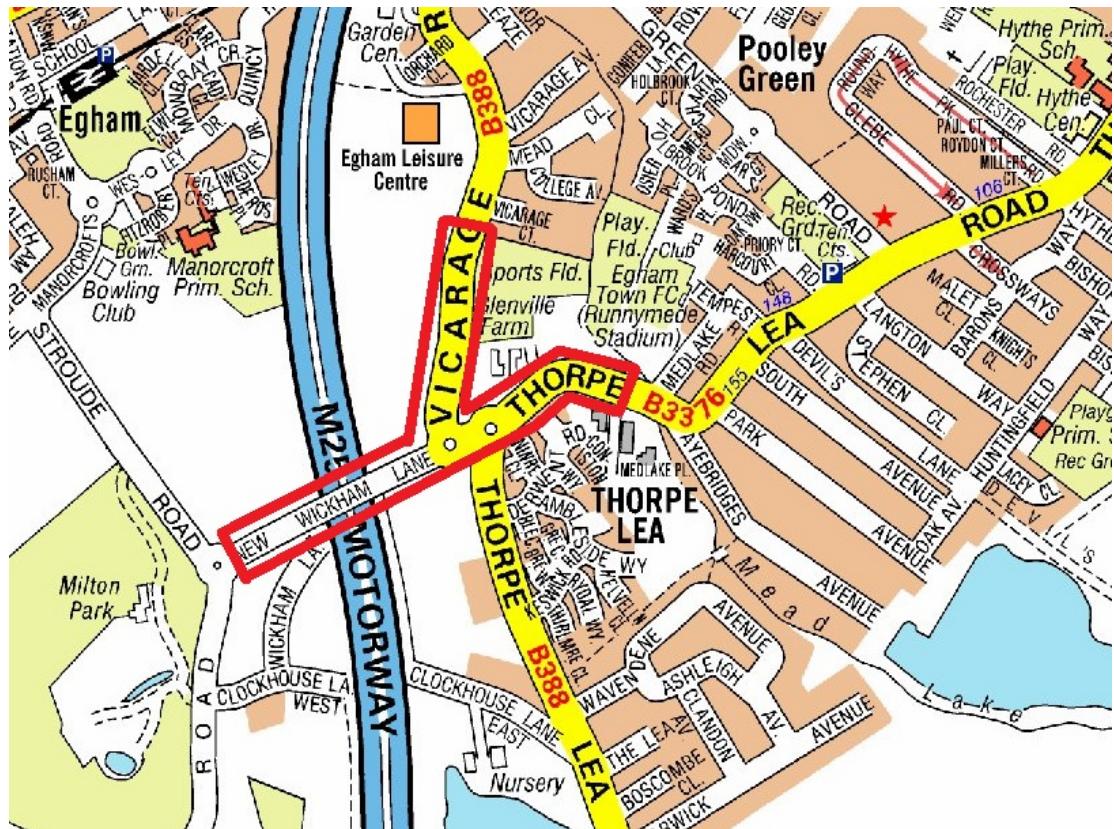


Figure 1 – Location plan showing sections of road currently subject to 60mph speed limit

- 1.2 The sections of Vicarage Road, New Wickham Lane and Thorpe Lea Road highlighted in red in the above plan are currently subject to national speed limit (60mph) which is not generally consistent with roads of a similar nature. The other roads adjoining the highlighted area are subject to either a 30mph or 40mph speed limit.
- 1.3 Reducing the speed limit over the highlighted sections of road would provide a more appropriate and consistent application of speed limits in the area.
- 1.4 In response to concerns raised by residents about the appropriateness of the existing speed limits, the Runnymede Local Committee agreed that a speed limit assessment should be carried out as part of its 2018/19 capital programme of works.
- 1.5 An assessment has therefore been undertaken in accordance with Surrey County Council's Setting Local Speed Limits Policy (attached as Annex 1) which defines an 8 step approach consisting of:

Step 1 – Request to change speed limit is received.

Step 2 – Measure existing speeds and analyse road casualty data.

- Step 3 – Compare the existing speeds with the suggested new speed limit.
- Step 4 – Conduct feasibility of supporting engineering measures.
- Step 5 – Consult with Surrey Police Road Safety and Traffic Management Team.
- Step 6 – Local/Joint Committee decision and allocation of funding
- Step 7 – Advertisement of legal speed limit order and implementation.
- Step 8 – Monitoring of success of scheme

2. ANALYSIS:

Vehicle Speeds

- 2.1 7-day automatic traffic surveys were undertaken in the 60mph sections of Vicarage Road, New Wickham Lane and Thorpe Lea Road. A summary of the survey results are shown in the following table:

Road	Average daily flow	Average 85%ile speed (mph)	Average mean speed (mph)
B3376 Thorpe Lea Road	5,967	35.7	30.9
B3376 New Wickham Lane	5,461	43.5	38.1
B388 Vicarage Road	4,518	41.7	36.1

Table 1 – Summary of speed survey results

- 2.2 The 85th percentile speed is the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles are travelling at or below. However, Surrey County Council's speed limit policy (in accordance with Department for Transport guidance) uses mean speeds for the assessment process.

Collision History

- 2.3 There have been a number of personal injury collisions on the sections of road being assessed. The table below shows the number of personal injury collisions for the period from January 2015 until July 2018 together with their severity:

Location	Collisions	Date	Severity
B3376 New Wickham Lane	2	06/02/2015 15/01/2016	Slight Slight
B388 Vicarage Road	3	13/07/2015 23/02/2017 30/04/2017	Serious Slight Slight
B3376 Thorpe Lea Road	1	05/11/2015	Slight

Table 2 – Personal injury collision data

Results of Assessment

- 2.4 Under Step 3 of the policy, the table below shows the suggested new lower speed limit for each section of road and the existing mean speed.

Road	Current limit	Suggested limit	Existing mean speed
B3376 Thorpe Lea Road	National (60 mph)	30 mph	30.9 mph
B3376 New Wickham Lane	National (60 mph)	40 mph	38.1 mph
B388 Vicarage Road	National (60 mph)	40 mph	36.1 mph

Table 3 – Personal injury collision data

- 2.5 Based on the guidance in the County Council's speed limit policy, the recorded mean vehicle speeds indicate the suggested reduced speed limits shown in the above table could be introduced without the need for any additional speed reducing measures.
- 2.6 It is therefore recommended that the suggested new lower speed limits detailed in table 2 above and shown on the plan attached as Annex 2 are introduced.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 The Joint Committee has the following options available:
- Agree the proposed reductions in speed limit as recommended.
 - Agree to take no further action and retain the existing speed limit.
 - In exceptional circumstances the Joint Committee may like to proceed with a change to a speed limit against officer advice. In this instance the Joint Committee can request that the final decision is taken by the Surrey County Council Cabinet Member responsible for road safety.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Surrey Police's Road Safety and Traffic Management Team have been consulted and have confirmed they have no objections to the proposed changes in speed limit.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The total estimated cost of implementing the recommended speed limit changes is £10,000. This includes the cost of legal advertisements, design work and installing signing and road markings.
- 5.2 The Joint Committee has made provision to fund the proposals from its 2018/19 capital budget.

6. WIDER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	No significant implications
Equality and Diversity	No significant implications
Localism (including community involvement and impact)	No significant implications
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	No significant implications
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications
Public Health	No significant implications

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 7.1 The results of the speed limit assessment indicate that, in accordance with the county council's Setting Local Speed Limits Policy, the reduced speed limits shown in Annex 2 can be introduced without the need for any additional speed reducing measures. These lower limits are more appropriate for the nature of the roads than the existing national speed limit (60mph). They are also more consistent with the speed limits on the surrounding roads.
- 7.2 It is therefore recommended that the proposed reductions in speed limit shown in the plan attached in Annex 2 are introduced in Thorpe Lea Road, Vicarage Road and New Wickham Lane.

8. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 8.1 Subject to the Joint Committee approving the recommendations of this report, a traffic regulation order will be advertised for the reduced speed limits. Subject to the consideration of any objections received, the order will then be made and the proposed speed limit changes implemented.

Contact Officers:

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Consulted:

Surrey Police Road Safety and Traffic Management Team

County Council Cabinet Member

Mr Colin Kemp.
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Annexes:

Annex 1 – Surrey County Council's "Setting Local Speed Limits Policy", July 2014
Annex 2 – Proposed speed limits

Sources/background papers:

Surrey County Council's "Setting Local Speed Limits Policy", July 2014

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