

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, HIGHWAYS AND ENVIRONMENT



DATE: 9 OCTOBER 2013

LEAD OFFICER: JOHN LAWLOR, SOUTH EAST AREA TEAM MANAGER

SUBJECT: MOLE VALLEY SPEED LIMIT ASSESSMENT – A217 REIGATE ROAD, HOOKWOOD

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment is asked to consider whether to endorse the Mole Valley Local Committee's request to reduce the speed limit on the A217 Reigate Road, Hookwood. Under the County's Speed Limit Policy, the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment is given the authority to endorse a new speed limit which does not comply with the policy.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment is asked to decide whether:

1. To endorse the request of the Mole Valley Local Committee to reduce the speed limit on the A217 Reigate Road, Hookwood from the Reigate & Banstead borough boundary to Mill Lane, from 50mph to 40mph.
2. To endorse the request of the Mole Valley Local Committee to reduce the speed limit on the A217 Reigate Road, Hookwood from Mill Lane to the Hookwood Roundabout, from 50mph to 40mph.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

A reduced speed limit does not comply with the Speed Limit Policy; however Surrey Police would support a reduction in the speed limit on the section between Mill Lane and the Hookwood roundabout.

DETAILS:

1. The Mole Valley Local Committee's approved programme of Integrated Transport Schemes for 2013/14 includes the investigation of a number of roads in the area with a view to reducing the speed limits on them. Following a petition presented in December 2012, the Mole Valley Local Committee received a report at its meeting on 12 June 2013 setting out the outcome of the speed limit assessments for the A217 Reigate Road, Hookwood. A copy of the report presented to the Local Committee is attached as **Annex 1**.
2. Speed surveys were carried out at 2 locations on the A23 between the boundary with Reigate & Banstead and the Hookwood roundabout. The locations of the speed surveys are shown in **Annex 2**. The table below sets

out the current speed limit, the limit requested by the divisional member, the preferred limit under the Speed Limit Policy and the limit recommended by officers to Mole Valley Local Committee for approval.

Location of speed survey	Current limit	Requested limit	'Preferred limit'	Measured mean speeds		Proposed limit
				Northbound	Southbound	
Hookwood House	50mph	40mph	50mph	48mph	49mph	50mph
Mole End	50mph	40mph	50mph	43mph	46mph	50mph

3. The Local Committee rejected the officer recommendation not to reduce the speed limit on the A217 Reigate Road between the Reigate & Banstead borough boundary and the Hookwood roundabout. The Local Committee agreed an amended recommendation which was to seek the support of the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment to reduce the speed limit on this section from 50mph to 40mph.
4. Under the Speed Limit Policy a Local Committee may decide exceptionally, to implement a speed limit which does not reduce speeds to a level approaching the new limit. Where the Police object to the proposed speed limit reduction and the local officer recommends against proceeding, the decision should be endorsed by the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment, having taken advice from officers and the Police

CONSULTATION:

4. Consultation has been carried out with Surrey Police. Regarding the section between the Reigate & Banstead borough boundary and Mill Lane, the Police object to and would not support the proposal to reduce the speed limit, based primarily on the recorded mean speeds for that section and also the lack of any planned speed-reducing measures.
5. Surrey Police would support a reduction in the speed limit on the section between Mill Lane and the Hookwood roundabout.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

6. Residents have submitted a petition requesting a reduction in the speed limit on the A217 in the Hookwood area.
7. Recorded speeds on the A217 between Reigate & Banstead borough boundary and Mill Lane suggest that reducing the speed limit may not result in reduced speeds.
8. Changes to speed limits require the advertisement of a speed limit order. Objections may be received when a speed limit order is advertised. The Mole Valley Local Committee has agreed that consideration and resolution of objections in relation the changes to the speed limits on the A217 Reigate Road be delegated to the South East Area Team Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice Chairman and relevant Divisional Manager.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

9. £25,000 has been allocated from Section 106 developer contributions for the proposed speed limit reduction. The latest estimated cost for implementing the speed limit reduction is £17,315.

Section 151 Officer Commentary

10. The Section 151 Officer (Chief Finance Officer) confirms that all material, financial and business issues and risks have been considered in this report.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

11. Changes to speed limits are introduced through the making of a Speed Limit Order, under the Road Traffic Regulations Act, 1984.

Equalities and Diversity

12. The Highway Service is mindful of its needs within this area. There are no specific equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

Crime and Disorder:

13. Speeding concern of Local Committee. Risk to safety and crime.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

14. If the Cabinet Member for Transport, Highways and Environment decides to reduce the speed limits on the A217 Reigate Road to 40mph, the intention to make a Speed Limit Order will be advertised in the local press. Any objections will be considered and resolved by the Area Team Manager in consultation with the Mole Valley Local Committee Chairman, Vice Chairman and Local Divisional Member. The Speed Limit Order will then be made and the scheme implemented by the end of this financial year.

Contact Officer:

John Lawlor, South East Area Team Manager – email: john.lawlor@surreycc.gov.uk

Consulted:

South East Area Team Manager.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Report to Mole Valley Local Committee 12 June 2013. Speed Limit Review – A217 Reigate Road, C62 Reigate Road and C64 Povey Cross Road, Hookwood.

Annex 2: Plan of A217 Reigate Road showing existing speed limits and speed survey locations

Sources/background papers:

Report to Mole Valley Local Committee 12 June 2013. Speed Limit Review – A217 Reigate Road, C62 Reigate Road and C64 Povey Cross Road, Hookwood

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