

OFFICER DECISION REPORT – TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO)

1

INFORMAL CONSULTATION

PREPARED BY: Traffic Management Team, Highways and Traffic Group

TITLE OF REPORT: Shoscombe Village Speed Restriction

PROPOSAL: 20mph Speed Limit

SCHEME REF No: 22 – 013

REPORT AUTHOR: Lewis Cox / Gina West

1. DELEGATION

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **Part 3, Section 4** of the Constitution under the **Delegation of Functions to Officers**, as follows:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| Section A | The Chief Executive, Strategic Directors, Divisional Directors and Heads of Service have delegated power to take any decision falling within their area of responsibility....” |
| Section B | Without prejudice to the generality of this, Officers are authorised to: serve any notices and make, amend or revoke any orders falling within his/her area of responsibility. |
| Section D9 | An Officer to whom a power, duty or function is delegated may nominate or authorise another Officer to exercise that power, duty or function, provided that Officer reports to or is responsible to the delegator. |

For the purpose of this report, the Director of Place Management holds the delegated power to make, amend or revoke any Orders.

2. LEGAL AUTHORITY

This proposal is made in accordance with the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, which under Section 1 provides, generally, for Orders to be made for the following reasons, and in the case of this report specifically for the reason(s) shown below:

| | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (a) | for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, or | X |
| (b) | for preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road, or | |
| (c) | for facilitating the passage on the road or any other road of any class of traffic (including pedestrians), or | |
| (d) | for preventing the use of the road by vehicular traffic of a kind which, or its use by vehicular traffic in a manner which, is unsuitable having regard to the existing character of the road or adjoining property, | |

| | | |
|-----|---|---|
| (e) | (without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (d) above) for preserving the character of the road in a case where it is specially suitable for use by persons on horseback or on foot, or | |
| (f) | for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs, or | X |
| (g) | for any of the purposes specified in paragraphs (a) to (c) of subsection (1) of section 87 of the Environment Act 1995 (air quality) | |

3. PROPOSAL

To introduce a new 20mph speed limit throughout the village. The proposal is outlined in the plan with the proposed 20mph marked 'red'.

4. BACKGROUND

Shoscombe is a village situated off the main A367, it has several residential properties and farms throughout along with being part of a cycle network. The roads leading into the village and throughout are narrow and caution is needed whilst driving, there are currently some advisory 20mph signs located within the village however Local Ward Members and the Parish Council want to see some form of improvement to the traffic management measures in the village. Bath & North East Somerset Council therefore put forwards the proposed implementation of a 20mph speed limit.

5. SOURCE OF FINANCE

This proposal is being funded by the Traffic Management Team TIP scheme 2022/2023.

6. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

The proposal requires informal consultation with the Chief Constable, Ward Members and the Cabinet Members for Transport.

PROPOSALS APPROVED FOR INFORMAL CONSULTATION WITH THE CHIEF CONSTABLE AND WARD MEMBERS.

Signature:
Paul Garrod
Traffic Management and Network Manager

Date: 23rd September 2023

7. INFORMAL CONSULTATION

Cllr Bevan: I'm very happy to support this application – it's highly appropriate for Shoscombe.

Cllr Walker: I am happy to support the 20mph ~~roll~~ out in Shoscombe.

Police: The police service has to ensure all resources are used effectively in responding to community priorities. Avon and Somerset Constabulary will support all appropriate speed limits, including 20mph roads, where;
The limit looks and feels like the limit, giving visiting motorists who wish to conform that chance; the desired outcome has to be speeds at the limit chosen so as to achieve safe roads for other and vulnerable users, not high speeds and high enforcement;
the limit is self-enforcing (with reducing features) not requiring large scale enforcement;
the limit is only introduced where mean speeds are already close to the limit to be imposed, (24mph in a 20mph limit) or with interventions that make the limit clear to visiting motorists; speeding problems identified in an area must have the engineering, site clarity and need re-assessed, not simply a call for more enforcement.

Enforcement will be considered in all clearly posted limits, given other priorities, and this will be by:

Targeted enforcement where there is deliberate offending and the limits are clear;
Where limits are not clear (that is they don't feel like or look like the limit or are on inappropriate roads), they will not be routinely enforced, only targeted where there is intelligence of obvious deliberate disregard which may result in increased threat, harm or risk to other road users.

Deliberate high harm offenders will always be targeted and prosecuted whereas enforcement against drivers who simply misread the road may not be appropriate. None of the above should in anyway leave the impression that we will not enforce the law. As with all speed limits, and other enforcement work, we will use evidence to ensure that our resources are allocated in the most appropriate way using appropriate tactics.

Enforcement of limits that do not comply with the above representations could lead to mistaken offending and could risk the loss of public support. Enforcement cannot and must not take the place of proper engineering and or clear signing.”

We do not, as part of this consultation, check the accuracy or validity of what is being proposed but we do consider implications for road safety and enforcement.

We always expect that:

a) the powers being exercised are available to you as traffic authority, are valid and are appropriate for the proposals;

- b) the descriptions of the lengths of road, the road names, the road numbers and any directional descriptions are correct and accurate;
- c) where any proposals replace existing restrictions or prohibitions, that the previous orders are adequately revoked or varied;
- d) the mandatory traffic signs giving legal effect to the order will be fully TSRGD compliant, will give drivers adequate guidance and will be placed to accord to the descriptions in the order.

We have worked on the assumption that, by submitting this TRO for consultation, you are also confirming the above points and that subject to consultation process, the order will be made. Any enforcement action taken by the Police will be based on this and, should this transpire not to be the case, Avon & Somerset Constabulary will not accept any liability – financial or otherwise – arising as a result.

Parish Council: Comment in response was to ensure the residents of the village would be made aware of the proposal (the proposal will be publicly available during the public consultation).

Cabinet member for Transport Cllr Rigby: I fully support this scheme.

8. **RECOMMENDATION**

As no significant objections and/or comments have been received following the informal consultation described above, the formal Traffic Regulation Order process (the public advertisement of the proposals) should be progressed.



Paul Garrod
Traffic Management & Network Manager

Date: 3rd October 2022

9. **DECISION**

As the officer holding the above delegation, I approve the progression of this Traffic Regulation Order.

In taking this decision, I confirm that due regard has been given to the Council's public sector equality duty, which requires it to consider and think about how its policies or decisions may affect people who are protected under the Equality Act.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Major', written in a cursive style.

Chris Major
Director for Place Management

Date: 04/10/22

