

**OFFICER DECISION REPORT – SPEED LIMIT ORDER
TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER (TRO)**

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**PRELIMINARY CONSULTATION (Cabinet Member for Sustainable
Transport Delivery)**

PREPARED BY: Traffic Management Team, Highways and Traffic Group

TITLE OF REPORT:	B3114 Bristol Rd and Stratford Lane, West Harptree
PROPOSAL:	20mph speed limit
SCHEME REF No:	25-003
REPORT AUTHOR:	Lewis Cox

1. DELEGATION

The delegation to be exercised in this report is contained within **Part 2 Section 2.35** of the Constitution under the **Delegations of Functions to Officers**, as follows:

Section A	The Chief Executive, Executive Director - Chief Operating Officer, 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 their area of responsibility.
Section D	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 purposes of this report, the Director of Place Management and the Head of Highways Delivery hold 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,	X
(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 an extension of the existing 20mph speed limit at West Harptree, to include more of the B3114 Bristol Road and Stratford Lane.

The proposals are shown on the attached drawing TCL0042_WH_20.

4. **REASON**

Following requests from residents and the Parish Council, funding has been secured to extend the existing 20mph speed limit in West Harptree. The road network through West Harptree is heavily used by pedestrians and cyclists alongside motor vehicles, particularly during the summer months. The proposed speed limit corresponds with the creation of a new cycle link (Chew Valley Recreational Trail) which is being introduced around Chew Valley Lake and includes Stratford Lane. It is anticipated that the proposed lower speed limit will improve road safety for all road users within this rural setting.

The Council has had in mind and discharged the duty (as set out in section 122(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984) to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) so far as practicable. It has also had regard to the factors which point in favour of imposing a 20mph speed limit. It has balanced the various considerations and concluded that it is appropriate to promote the 20mph speed limit. The Council has also considered and discharged its network management duty under section 16 of the Traffic Management Act 2004. It has concluded that the proposed 20mph speed limit is consistent with that duty, having regard to its other policies and objectives.

5. IMPACT ON EQUALITIES

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken in relation to the introduction of traffic management measures, which is available upon request. The Council has had due regard to the needs set out in section 149(1) of the Equality Act 2010. It considers that the proposed Order is consistent with the section 149 public sector equality duty, which it has discharged.

6. IMPACT ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The proposals are considered to have a minimal impact on human rights (such as the right to respect for private and family life and the right to peaceful enjoyment of property). However, the Council is entitled to affect these rights where it is in accordance with the law, necessary (in the interests of public safety or economic well-being, to prevent disorder and crime, to protect health, or to protect the rights and freedoms of others), in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate to do so. The proposal(s) within this report are considered to be in accordance with the law, necessary, in pursuit of a legitimate aim and proportionate.

7. SOURCE OF FINANCE

The scheme is included in the 2026/2027 Local Active Travel and Safety Programme.

8. CONSULTATION REQUIREMENT

The proposal requires consultation with the Chief Constable, Emergency Services, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association (Logistics UK), Parking Services, Waste Services, Ward Members and the Cabinet Member for Sustainable Transport Delivery.

9. COMMENTS RECEIVED TO DATE

Chief Constable

Please can we have details of speed and collision data for this consultation to enable us to make a fully informed response on behalf of the Chief Constable.

As previously discussed, we have a Force stance regarding the introduction of speed limits, which has been written to reflect the current speed environment.

Officer response:

A speed survey has been carried out, and the data collected was forwarded to Avon and Somerset Police Traffic Management Unit.

Subsequent response from the Chief Constable:

Thank you for your email and attached speed data regarding the proposed 20mph speed limit extension in West Harptree, to include more of the B3114 Bristol Road and Stratford Lane.

The Constabulary may not support speed reductions if the data submitted is not sufficient and/or the road design is not appropriate. In summary from the attached: the mean speeds shown are not commensurate with a proposed 20mph speed limit by some considerable difference. Please could you identify what traffic management measures are to be installed which would promote compliance? We are unable to support the current proposal given the discrepancy.

Officer response:

There are currently no plans or funding to introduce additional traffic management measures which are likely to significantly impact on vehicle speeds in Bristol Road and Stratford Lane. If the proposed 20mph speed limits are introduced, it is acknowledged that the Police may not be in a position to enforce the speed limits, for the reasons mentioned above.

If the proposed 20mph speed limits are introduced, Bristol Road and Stratford Lane will be added to our list of roads and locations where road safety concerns have previously been raised, and a scheme to introduce appropriate traffic management measures will be assessed for possible inclusion in a future Local Active Travel and Safety (LATS) Programme. It should be noted, however, that there are numerous traffic management and road safety schemes competing for inclusion in the LATS Programme, so it is important that the limited resources which are available are carefully prioritised and directed towards those roads and locations which are considered to be most in need of attention.

Emergency Services

No comments received.

Road Haulage Association

No comments received.

Freight Transport Association

No comments received.

Parking Services

No comments received.

Waste Services

No comments received.

Parish Council

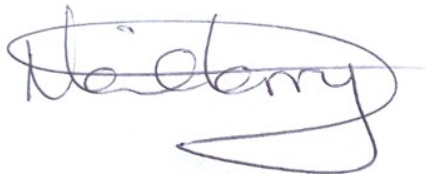
West Harptree Parish Council supports this proposal for the extension of the 20mph zone. In light of recent accidents at the junction, the parish council would also like to highlight that this extension of the 20mph zone may also help to reduce the accident risk at this junction.

Ward Members

Cllr David Wood

No comments received.

REPORT APPROVED FOR CIRCULATION TO CABINET MEMBER FOR SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT DELIVERY.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Neil Terry', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

Neil Terry
Traffic Management and Network Manager

Date: 27/06/2025