

**WESTBURY: TOWER HILL - MODIFICATIONS TO
TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES**

Purpose of Report

1. To consider a revised traffic calming scheme for Tower Hill.

Background

2. The approved road layout drawings for the Leigh Park development included a requirement for traffic calming on Tower Hill, in recognition of the likely increase in vehicular traffic, and the need to realign the A3098 in the vicinity.
3. During construction residents complained about the location of one of the traffic calming features due to its conflict with vehicular accesses. This feature was subsequently omitted.
4. Residents have since complained about the speed of traffic using this road, and meetings have been held with residents to find an alternative location for the traffic calming feature, in order to address this problem.
5. The developer's consultants undertook, at the County Council's request, a consultation exercise which sets out the revised proposals which relocate the existing feature to the south of the bridge further south, and reintroduce the original feature north of the bridge to a point which would not adversely affect vehicular accesses.
6. In the responses to the consultation exercise, one third considered that the current traffic calming measure helped in reducing vehicle speeds, and just under half of the respondents support the proposed modifications to the existing traffic calming arrangements.
7. Speed tests have been carried out in the vicinity of the traffic calming on Tower Hill both in July 2003 and March 2004. The recorded speeds were found to be 33mph and 33mph for traffic travelling south-west (uphill) and 35mph and 31mph for traffic travelling north-east (downhill) respectively.
8. There have been recent traffic accidents at Tower Hill which give some immediacy to the need to take further action.

Main Considerations for the Council

9. Members' views are sought on the proposed traffic calming works on Tower Hill.
10. A plan is attached at **Appendix 1** showing the proposed arrangement submitted to the residents for consultation. It will be necessary to maintain ongoing monitoring of the effectiveness of the works and review the need for further changes.
11. A copy of the Consultation Report will be available in the **Members' Room** prior to the meeting.

Environmental Impact of the Recommendation

12. There is not considered to be a significant environmental impact.

Risk Assessment

13. The measured speeds on the road and the known road traffic accidents in the area demonstrate the need to address the risk of further problems.
14. The proposed modification of the traffic calming arrangement is intended to off-set that risk.

Financial Implications

15. The traffic calming works proposed will be funded by the developers of Leigh Park.
16. Should further, more extensive remedial action be necessary, works will need to be funded from a reallocation of existing budgets.

Options Considered

17. A suggestion has been received from a resident that the traffic calming be removed and reliance placed on on-street resident parking to slow local traffic. This option is rejected on grounds of uncertainty and unreliability.
18. The option of taking no action is rejected on the grounds that measured speeds demonstrate the need for intervention.
19. A number of other suggestions have been put forward which can be seen from the Consultation Report.

Reasons for Recommendation

20. To address the ongoing concern by residents of the speed of traffic using Tower Hill.

Recommendation

21. That:-

- (i) The traffic calming scheme as indicated in **Appendix 1** be constructed.
- (ii) The residents who took part in the consultation exercise be advised accordingly.

GEORGE BATTEN

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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

Consultation Report by PFA Consulting dated 9th January 2004
Speed Test Surveys