

**KENNET DISTRICT COUNCIL
DEVIZES TOWN CENTRE JOINT MEMBERS WORKING PARTY
20 OCTOBER 2003**

**DEVIZES TOWN CENTRE
20MPH ZONE EXTENSION**

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of the report is to inform Members about the results of the consultation and to request Wiltshire County Council to advertise the necessary Road Traffic Orders to implement the scheme.

2. FINANCIAL AND STAFFING IMPLICATIONS

The scheme is included within the Local Transport Plan budget allocation and existing staff will implement the scheme.

3. BACKGROUND

At their meeting on 18th December 2002 Members discussed the scheme to extend the existing Devizes Town Centre 20mph zone to include part of Northgate Street, Market Place, Station Road, Snuff Street, St John's Street, Wine Street, High Street, Long Street, Bridewell Street, Sheep Street and part of Hillworth Road.

Members also approved an informal consultation of the Frontagers affected by the proposal.

4. THE CONSULTATION

During the last week of March 2003 questionnaires were sent out to the affected frontagers seeking their views on the proposals.

For those not directly affected, exhibitions were held in the Library and at the Browfort Offices. These events were advertised in the Devizes Town Council's Messenger, the Gazette and Herald, and on Wiltshire Radio.

In addition questionnaires were made available from the Tourist Information Centre, The Town Hall and at some events in the Corn Exchange.

5. CONSULTATION RESULTS

The table below is a summary of the results given more fully in appendix A:

	Yes	No	No View	Number of returns
Residents Survey	85%	12%	3%	294
Public Displays	63%	34%	3%	90
Overall Average	80%	17%	3%	384

6. COMMENTARY ON THE CONSULTATION COMMENTS

The comments made by three or more respondents are listed in appendix B. Some of the comments warrant detailed consideration:

The proposed scheme provides the minimum of traffic calming features and signs permissible under the 20mph zone regulations (items 1,14,16,30,24). The gateway will consist of the 20mph zone signs with no lower plate and a 20mph roundel on the road.

Police enforcement of existing regulations or the provision of speed cameras is unlikely. Therefore the scheme has to be self-enforcing by using traffic calming features (item 2).

The scheme is unlikely to increase traffic congestion or divert traffic to other parts of the town (items 3,7).

The ramp heights will be 50mm as research has found that they cause the minimum amount of vibration and noise while still slowing traffic. This height of ramp coupled with the wide top will cause the least inconvenience to buses, cyclists and motorbike users (items 4,12). The 50mm ramp height was selected in conjunction with the emergency services.

Additional zebra crossings were requested at three points along Long Street. Concern has been expressed about the aesthetics of zebra crossings especially in this area. Additionally it was not possible to identify the most advantageous place to locate a zebra crossing and not practical to provide three (items 5,9).

If the walking environment is made more pleasant it is unlikely to affect trade (item 6)

As the road through the Market Place is an 'A' road it is unlikely that an order to restrict Heavy Goods vehicles could be obtained (item 23)

Additional traffic calming would be considered for Bridewell Street and Sheep Street in the event that the ambulance service relocates.

The shopkeepers in Northgate Street adjacent to the proposed zebra crossing have objected to this particular part of the proposal.

6. OTHER CONSULTTEES

Two objections to the ramps were received from bus companies.

Two taxi drivers objected to the scheme.

The letters from the Town Council and The Devizes Trust are attached in Appendix C. The items mentioned in the Devizes Trusts letter have been agreed and in addition the bollards shown at the end of the ramps have been deleted. The Town Council's comments are covered above.

No objections were received from the emergency services.

7. PROGRAMME

Members will be given a verbal report on the proposed timetable at the meeting.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Members request that Wiltshire County Council formally advertise the Road Traffic Orders required to implement the scheme.

Background papers: None

SAI/20-91-32

9/10/03

APPENDIX A

DEVIZES TOWN CENTRE – 20MPH ZONE EXTENSION
Consultation Results

Residents Survey Results

Location	Number Sent Out	Yes	No	No View	Total Returned
Market Place (Pink)	165	35 73%	10 21%	3 6%	48 29%
Station Road (Salmon)	36	16 80%	2 10%	2 10%	20 56%
Long Street (Yellow)	271	95 86%	16 14%	0 0%	111 41%
Bridewell Street (Green)	181	68 88%	5 6%	4 6%	77 43%
Hillworth Road (Blue)	92	35 92%	3 8%	0 0%	38 41%
Residents Average	745	249 85%	36 12%	9 3%	294 39%

Public Display Results

Browfort		14 54%	12 46%	0 0%	26
Library (3,699 visits)		23 55%	18 43%	1 2%	42
Corn Exchange		8 80%	1 10%	1 10%	10
Devizes Town Council		5 100%	0 0%	0 0%	5
Tourist Information Centre		7 100%	0 0%	0 0%	7
Non Residents		57 63%	31 34%	2 3%	90

Overall Results

Overall Averages		306 80%	67 17%	11 3%	384
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DEVIZES TOWN CENTRE 20MPH ZONE EXTENSION

APPENDIX B

Consultation Comments

Ref.	Comment	Yes	No	No View	Total
1	Would like a 20mph zone but without any features	14	8	2	22
2	Enforcement of speeding and illegal parking, provide speed cameras	17	4	1	22
3	The scheme will increase traffic congestion	2	13	1	16
4	Concern about noise and vibration caused by the ramps	9	6	0	15
5	Provide a zebra crossing in the vicinity of St Johns Church	11	2	0	13
6	The scheme will be detrimental to trade	1	11	0	12
7	The scheme will divert traffic onto other roads	5	7	0	12
8	20mph zone for Southbroom Rd	9	3	0	12
9	Provide a zebra crossing in the vicinity of Junction of Hillworth Rd with Long St	12	0	0	12
10	Re-surface the worst roads in Devizes instead	4	7	0	11
11	Scheme is a waste of money	1	10	0	11
12	Road Humps are dangerous for cyclists and motor bikes	5	5	0	10
13	Humps cause accidents and encourage speeding	4	4	1	9
14	Too many or no buildouts in Station Rd	8	0	1	9
15	Cushions and ramps damage vehicles	3	6	0	9
16	Do not want additional street furniture, lights, signs road markings etc	0	6	2	8
17	The Town needs a bypass	2	5	1	8
18	Support for pedestrian crossing points	6	1	0	7
19	Residents Parking needed	7	0	0	7
20	Use parked cars or zebra crossings instead of buildouts and ramps etc	2	4	0	6
21	20mph for other parts of the town	6	0	0	6
22	No parking to be lost	6	0	0	6
23	Ban through lorries from the zone	6	0	0	6
24	Too many ramps and cushions	2	3	0	5
25	Support for pedestrianisation	5	0	0	5
26	Additional traffic calming in Bridewell and Hare and Hounds Street	5	0	0	5
27	Remove parking	5	0	0	5
28	Concern about pedestrian perception of ramps as controlled crossing points	0	3	1	4
29	The whole town should be made 20mph	3	0	1	4
30	Too many cushions in Hillworth Rd	2	2	0	4
31	Anti motorist	0	4	0	4
32	Make Bridewell Street one way	4	0	0	4
33	No crossing needed in Northgate Street	0	3	0	3
34	20mph for Pans Lane	3	0	0	3
35	Additional parking restrictions required	2	1	0	3
36	No 20mph on the cul-de-sacs	3	0	0	3