

SPEED LIMITS OUTSIDE SCHOOLS IN WILTSHIRE

Experience of other local authorities

Nottinghamshire – For schools located on a residential road has introduced advisory 20 mph limits outside schools on a blanket role out basis. However, there is no evidence available yet of the effectiveness of the advisory limits either in terms of reduced vehicle speeds or casualty reduction.

For schools located on main traffic distributor roads, advisory variable speed limits will be introduced. The advisory variable 20 mph limits will operate during school start and finish times, Monday-Friday during term-time only; and 30 mph (or appropriate) limits at all other times.

Somerset – Initially introduced full time 20 mph speed limits but these were removed following complaints. Now uses advisory 20 mph limits at school opening and closing times. No before or after monitoring of vehicle speeds or collision data has been undertaken. Funding of advisory signs done 50/50 with local community. No formal policy in place. Each request looked at on its merits.

Swindon – Has introduced a number of Advisory 20 mph limits as part of School Safety Zones. Before and after surveys indicate no substantive change in either driven speeds or casualty numbers. However, perception surveys indicate that pedestrians do feel safer.

Devon - Provides 20 mph speed limits, where there is significant vulnerable road user activity and an identified, speed-related casualty record. Mean speeds will already be low; if not, the new restriction should be self-enforcing. Careful consideration is given to the environmental impacts associated with the scheme which should not be introduced on roads serving a strategic function. 20 mph speed limits may be provided in the vicinity of schools where the above criteria are met, ideally where highlighted in the school's travel plan.

Lincolnshire - All statutory age schools will have a maximum speed limit of 30 mph in place for a distance of 150 metres to 250 metres either side of the main pedestrian entrance and with discretion at secondary accesses.

20 mph speed limits may be introduced but are currently only considered and applied if appropriate to Accident, Investigation and Prevention (AIP) schemes which meet the necessary AIP funding criteria.

It is intended to develop a separate policy relating to speed management and parking issues outside schools as part of the County Council's Speed Management Strategy. All advisory 20 mph School Safety Zones will remain in place until a new School Safety Policy is introduced.

Hampshire – Has installed approximately 20no Advisory 20 mph limits. Requests are considered on a case by case basis as not suitable for all locations. Have not used variable limits. Some before speeds were recorded but no after readings done.

Wokingham - Does not have a formal policy regarding the installation of 20 mph restrictions outside schools. Should requests be made by schools or members of the public, these would be considered. They have two types installed within the Wokingham area. One makes use of variable speed limits and has the relevant traffic regulations orders. However, this was considered a tedious process. The other is the installation of advisory 20 mph limits and started at locations where schools have crossing patrols and is being rolled out to other schools. It would seem that no before or after data was collected but it was confirmed that feedback from schools where it has been introduced has been positive.