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HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND WASTE SERVICE

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REFERENCE: HTW-14-22

1.THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE (B3108, BRADFORD ON AVON AND WINSLEY) (40MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2021

2. THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE (B3108, WINSLEY) (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2021

Purpose of Report

 To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of speed limit changes on the B3108 between Winsley and Bradford on Avon as part of the introduction of the Active Travel scheme and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposal aligns to the Business Plan – Strong Communities. "We want people in Wiltshire to be encouraged to take responsibility for their well-being, build positive relationships and to get involved, influence and take action on what is best for their own communities - we want residents to succeed to the best of their abilities and feel safe where they live and work".

Background

- 3. In May 2020 the Secretary of State for Transport announced additional statutory guidance under the Traffic Management Act in response to Covid-19 and stated the Government's expectation that traffic authorities make significant changes to road layouts to make more space for pedestrians and cyclists.
- 4. It was announced that there would be funding to introduce such measures to enable social distancing and to encourage and sustain the increase in active travel as we emerge from the Covid-19 restrictions. This was initially called the Emergency Active Travel Fund. The fund was split into two tranches.
- 5. Tranche 1 funding was intended to help provide new temporary facilities for walking and cycling in the early months of the pandemic. Wiltshire Council delivered five pedestrian and cycling schemes across the county following a successful funding bid. One of these schemes was the temporary cycle scheme on the B3108 between Winsley and Bradford on Avon which included a reduction of the speed limit to 40mph.
- 6. Subsequent consultation in December 2020 highlighted a desire from the public to implement a permanent active travel scheme along this route. This scheme is due to be constructed in Summer 2022 and the proposed permanent reduction to a 40mph speed limit as advertised forms part of this project.

Main Considerations for the Council

7. To consider the comments received during the consultation period. A summary of the issues raised, and officer comments are included in **Appendix 3**.

Overview and Scrutiny Engagement

8. Overview and Scrutiny Committee has not yet been involved in this project.

Safeguarding Implications

9. There is no risk to the Council as a result of this proposal.

Public Health Implications

10. There are none with this proposal.

Procurement Implications

11. There are no procurement implications for the Council associated with this proposal as work will be undertaken by the authority's appointed term contractors.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

12. There are none with this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

13. There are none with this proposal.

Risk Assessment

14. There is no risk to the Council as a result of this proposal.

Financial Implications

15. The proposal is to be funded from the Council's Integrated Transport Block funding awarded by the Department for Transport. Should this proposal not proceed, funding will be allocated to other projects under that remit.

Legal Implications

16. There are none with this proposal.

Options Considered

- 17. To:
 - (i) Progress implementation of the speed limit changes as advertised.

- (ii) To abandon the proposals and advertise an amended proposal
- (iii) To abandon the proposal and retain the current speed limit.

Reason for Proposal

- 18. The proposal is intended to improve traffic conditions by reducing the speed limit to 40 mph on the B3108 between Winsley and Bradford on Avon alongside the introduction of a shared use path as part of the active travel scheme. These changes should provide a positive impact on road safety and are in accordance with Priority 2 of the Council's Business Plan.
- 19. The introduction of a 40mph speed limit as advertised has overall support from the public, Parish Council and Local Member and no substantive objections have been made.

Proposal

20. That the proposal be implemented as advertised.

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

None