

**CABINET MEMBER FOR TRANSPORT, STREET SCENE & FLOODING –
CLLR CAROLINE THOMAS**

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT & COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE: HTW-17-23

PROPOSED 20-MPH SPEED LIMIT
ALFRED STREET AREA, WESTBURY

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of a proposed 20-mph speed limit in Westbury, to include the following roads, Alfred Street, Glebe Close, Bitham Mill and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) meets two of the outcomes in the Council's Business Plan 2022-2032.
 - Outcome 2 Resilient Society– communicate with communities in a way that promotes constructive discussion, tailored to the communities needs and developing better solutions to these. To empower communities and groups to act in their local area. This outcome has been met through the development of the proposals (to which this report relates) with members of the local community through the Westbury Area Board via the Westbury Local Highways & Footways Improvement Group (LHFIG hereafter) which is made up of elected members and officers from both Wiltshire Council and relevant Town and Parish Councils, as well as representatives of local interest groups.
 - Outcome 3 Thriving Economy – Deliver infrastructure to enable local communities to live, work and play locally, businesses to invest and everyone to take responsibility for the environment. Helping to build an efficient and effective transport network, including viable alternatives to the car. This outcome has been met through the proposed introduction of a 20-mph speed limit that will address road safety concerns and help encourage active travel including cycling and walking opportunities.

Background

3. Following the publication of Wiltshire Council's policy for 20-mph speed limits, the authority made a commitment to undertake assessments to determine the feasibility of 20-mph speed restrictions where requests are made, supported and funded through the Local Highways and Footway Improvement Groups (LHFIG).
4. As a result of concerns raised by the local community a request for a 20-mph speed limit was raised, supported and funded by the LHFIG, in partnership with Westbury Town Council, during 2022 / 23. An analysis of this location against Wiltshire's Policy and the Department for Transport's Circular 01/2013 "Setting Local Speed Limits" lead to a recommendation to introduce a 20-mph Speed Limit.

5. A plan outlining the proposal is provided in **Appendix 1**.

Consultation

6. The formal consultation period ended on 13 February 2023. During the consultation period a total of 9 items of correspondence were received in response to the Council's proposals. Of those 9 items, 8 expressed support including additional comments for the Council's proposals, and one objected to the Council's proposals.
7. Westbury Town Council has indicated its support of this proposal through the LHFIG meetings and has given a commitment to fund 30% of the cost of implementation.
8. The proposal locations sit within the Westbury East Division. The Wiltshire Council Member for this division has given their support for this proposal.

Main Considerations for the Council

9. To consider the comments received during the consultation period. A summary of the issues raised and officer comments are included in **Appendix 2**.

Safeguarding Considerations

10. There is no risk to the Council because of these proposals.

Public Health Implications

11. There are none with this proposal.

Corporate Procurement Implications

12. There are none in this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

13. There are none in this proposal.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

14. There are none in this scheme.

Risk Assessment

15. There is no risk to the Council arising from these proposals.

Financial Implications

16. Changes on the ground will be funded by the LHFIG, with a 30% contribution from Westbury Town Council. Failure to proceed with the project may result in unspent funds currently allocated to this project being returned to the LHFIG.

Legal Implications

17. There are none with this proposal.

Options Considered

18. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Implement the proposals as advertised with amendments.

- (iii) Abandon the proposals.

Reason for Proposals

- 19. The proposal is intended to improve road and pedestrian safety and to allay concerns of safety expressed by residents. It is considered that by lowering the speed limit this will discourage rat-running at peak times and encourage greater uptake of walking and cycling.

Proposals

- 20. That:
 - (i) The proposals be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) The objectors be advised accordingly.
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The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this Report:

None