

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

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT & COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE: HTW-01-24

**THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE (VARIOUS ROADS, DEVIZES)
(20-MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2023**

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of a proposed 20-mph speed limit in Chippenham, to include the following roads and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

A360 Long Street (Part)	The Market Place (inc Service Road)
A360 Northgate Street (Part)	Victoria Road
A360 St Johns Street	Wine Street
A360 The Market Place	
Bridewell Street	
Castle Lane	
Church Walk	
Commercial Road	
Couch Lane	
Hare and Hounds Street	
High Street	
New Park Road	
Sedgefield Gardens	
Snuff Street	
Station Road (Part)	

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposed Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) meets the following priorities in the Council's Business Plan 2022 2032.
 - Empowered People – 'We are safe', 'We Stay Active'
 - Resilient Society – 'We ensure decisions are evidence based'
 - Thriving Communities – 'We have vibrant, well connected communities'
 - Sustainable Environment – 'We are on the path to carbon neutral'

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 request for 20-mph speed limits in four areas of the town (the roads are listed in paragraph 1) was presented to the Devizes LHFIG (formally CATG) for prioritisation and funding in 2021/22.

5. An analysis of the requested locations was undertaken by the Council's Consultants utilising Wiltshire Council's adopted Policy and the guidance provided by the Department for Transport's Circular 01/2013 "Setting Local Speed Limits". This identified that those roads listed in Paragraph 1 would be for the introduction of a 20mph speed limit.
6. The outcome of this assessment was considered by Devizes Town Council, which resolved to support the outcomes of the assessment, and requested support through the Devizes LHFIFG for implementation. This request was considered by the LHFIFG and supported.
7. A plan outlining the extent of the proposal is provided in **Appendix 1**.

Consultation

8. The draft Traffic Regulation Orders were consulted upon from 17 August 2023 to 23 September 2023. During the consultation period twenty items of correspondence have been received in response to the proposals. Of the items received, fourteen expressed support for the Council's proposals, four objected to the proposals, and two outlined general comments. A list of respondents can be found in **Appendix 2**.
9. Devizes Town Council has indicated its support of this proposal through the LHFIFG meetings and has given a commitment to fund 50% of the cost of implementation. The Town Council did not provide formal comments of support during the consultation period.
9. The proposal locations are within the Devizes North Division. The Wiltshire Council Member for this division has not provided comment for this proposal but is an attendee of the Devizes LHFIFG.

Main Considerations for the Council

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

Safeguarding Considerations

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

Public Health Implications

12. There are none with this proposal.

Corporate Procurement Implications

13. There are none in this proposal.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

14. The introduction of a 20-mph speed limit will require the introduction of additional traffic signs in a location that currently does not have them. These signs could be considered a visual intrusion to the streetscape.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

15. There are none in this scheme.

Risk Assessment

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

Financial Implications

17. Changes on the ground will be funded by the LHFIG, with a contribution from Devizes Town Council.

Legal Implications

18. Changes to existing speed limit restrictions require amendments to the Traffic Regulation Order. The process is governed by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and associated Procedural Regulations. Failure to adhere to the statutory processes could result in the restrictions being successfully challenged in the High Court.

Options Considered

19. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Implement the proposals as advertised with amendments.
 - (iii) Abandon the proposals.

Reason for Proposals

20. The proposal is intended to improve road and pedestrian safety and to allay concerns of safety expressed by residents. It is intended that lowering the speed limit will discourage rat-running at peak times and encourage greater uptake of walking and cycling.
21. The proposal has the support of the locally elected members, both Wiltshire Council and Devizes Town Council, Local Highway Footway Improvement Group and Area Board.

Proposals

22. That:
- (i) The proposals be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) The objectors be advised accordingly.

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

None