

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS, STREET SCENE AND FLOODING
CLLR NICK HOLDER**

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORT SERVICE

OFFICER CONTACT: Sarah Dearden Email: sarah.dearden@wiltshire.gov.uk

REFERENCE:HSSF-19-24

CORSHAM TOWN CENTRE 20-MPH SPEED LIMIT

Purpose of Report

1. To:
 - (i) Consider objections to the advertised proposals for the implementation of a 20-mph speed limit in Corsham Town Centre.
 - (ii) Recommend the making of the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO)

Relevance to the Council's Business Plan

2. The proposal meets two of the outcomes set out in the Council's Business Plan 2022-2032.
 - Outcome 2 – Resilient society.
 - Outcome 3 – Thriving economy.
3. Outcome 2 – 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 Corsham Area Board via the Corsham 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.
4. Outcome 3 – 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 the 20-mph speed limit that will address issues directly raised by members of the local community. The proposed speed limit reduction will address road safety concerns and help the Council fulfil statutory obligations placed upon it in its role as the local highway authority.

Background

5. A request was submitted to the Corsham LHFIG by Corsham Town Council for the speed limit to be assessed in Corsham Town Centre, following concerns raised by local residents and councillors. The aim is to improve road safety by altering the speed limit at the advertised location providing a positive impact on road safety. This was supported and funded through the LHFIG formally CATGs, under their remit and a budget for assessments and implementation. The Corsham LHFIG agreed to fund the speed limit assessment.

6. The proposed restrictions were requested by the Town Council and Local Members in response to requests received by their constituents. A plan outlining the proposals is provided in **Appendix 3**.

Consultation

7. The TRO for this proposal was advertised from 17 May 2024 to 10 June 2024.
8. During the advertisement period a total of 8 items of correspondence were received in response to the proposals contained within the advertised TRO. Of the 8 items of correspondence received, 5 expressed support for the Council's proposals, 1 objected to the proposals in their current form and 2 made comments only. No locally elected Wiltshire Council Members or Corsham Town Council representatives formally commented on the proposals; however, their support was given via the LHFIG meetings.

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 as a result of these proposals.

Public Health Implications

11. There is none in this scheme.

Corporate Procurement Implications

12. There is none in this scheme.

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

13. The reduction of vehicle speeds is known to reduce vehicle emissions which can positively affect air quality and can assist with the authority's policy of seeking carbon neutrality.

Equalities Impact of the Proposal

14. There is none in this scheme.

Risk Assessment

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

Financial Implications

16. There is an allocation in the current LHFIG Schemes budget which allows for the introduction of the proposed 20-mph speed limit. Should this scheme not progress the funding would be returned to the LHFIG budget allocation and would be available to be put towards other schemes.

Legal Implications

17. There are none with this proposal.

Options Considered

18. To:
- (i) Implement the proposals as advertised.
 - (ii) Not implement the proposals.

Reason for Proposals

19. The proposal is intended to improve traffic conditions and road safety by altering the speed limit at the advertised location providing a positive impact on road safety. It should be noted that removing the proposed 20-mph speed limit would leave the current speed limit of 30-mph in place.
20. The proposals are supported by the Corsham Area Board, Corsham Town Council, and Wiltshire Councillors.
21. The proposals will also be in accordance with both Priority 2 and Priority 3 of the Council's Business Plan.

Proposals

22. That:
- (i) The proposed TRO be implemented as advertised.
 - (ii) The objector to be informed accordingly.

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

Letters of representation
Proposed plan