

**CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT, STREET SCENE & FLOODING –
CLLR NICK HOLDER**

HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT & COMMISSIONING

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REFERENCE: HSSF-32-24

**THE COUNTY OF WILTSHIRE (HORTON ROAD, BISHOPS CANNINGS)
(40-MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION) ORDER 2024**

Purpose of Report

1. To consider the comments received following the formal advertisement of a proposed 40-mph speed limit extension in Bishops Cannings, to include the following road and to recommend an appropriate way forward.

- Extension of the 40mph Speed Limit on Horton Road

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 Devizes Area Board via the Devizes 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 speed limit changes that will address road safety concerns.

Background

3. Wiltshire Council made a commitment to undertake assessments to determine the feasibility of speed restrictions where requests are made, supported and funded through the Local Highways and Footway Improvement Groups (LHFIG).
4. Concerns were raised with Bishops Cannings Parish Council by residents regarding vehicle speeds on Horton Road and the impact of this on road safety. With Parish Council support, this was referred to Devizes Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) and, a review of the existing speed limit was requested.

5. The Council term consultants AtkinsRealis were commissioned to undertake an independent assessment of Horton Road in line with the Department for Transport Circular 01/13 Setting Local Speed Limits. The assessment recommended that Horton Road met the criteria for a reduction in speed limit from the current 50mph limit to a 40mph speed limit. This recommendation was presented to the Devizes LHFIG, which subsequently supported its implementation.
5. A plan outlining the extent of the proposal is provided in **Appendix 1**.

Consultation

6. During the advertisement period four items of correspondence have been received in response to the proposals contained within the advertised TRO.
7. Bishops Cannings Parish Council has indicated its support of this proposal through the LHFIG meetings as well as providing formal comments of support during the consultation period.
8. The proposal locations sit within the Urchfont & Bishops Cannings 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, is included in **Appendix 3**.

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. The introduction of speed limits requires the erection of traffic signs. These signs could be considered a visual intrusion to the streetscape. However, given that there are existing speed limits in the locality, it is not considered that new and additional signs will negatively impact the surrounding environment.

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 Bishops Cannings Parish Council. Should this proposal not proceed, the funding will be reallocated to other schemes as prioritised by the LHFIG.

Legal Implications

17. Alterations to existing speed limit restrictions require amendments to TROs. This 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

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

Reason for Proposals

19. Alterations to the speed limit on Horton Road is proposed in response to concerns raised by the Devizes LHFIG on behalf of Bishops Cannings Parish Council and the local community. The assessment has been completed in accordance with the relevant Department for Transport Guidance and the proposals meet the expectation of this.
20. The proposal has the support of the locally elected members, both Wiltshire Council and Bishops Cannings Parish Council, Devizes Local Highway Footway Improvement Group and Area Board.

Proposals

21. 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