HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Executive Decision Record

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Universal Services
Date:	15 January 2024
Title:	Traffic Management Policy Update: 20 mph Speed Limits & Zones
Report From:	Director of Universal Services
Contact name:	Martin Wiltshire

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1. The decision:

- 1.1. That the Executive Lead Member for Universal Services approves a revision to the Traffic Management policy to incorporate an updated policy position on 20mph speed limits and zones that includes a mechanism for Parish and Town Councils to request 20mph speed restrictions, on a full cost recovery basis.
- 1.2. That authority to make any minor consequential amendments to the Traffic Management policy to incorporate this revision be delegated to the Director of Universal Services.

2. Reasons for the decision:

- 2.1. The revised position on 20mph speed restrictions within the County Council's Traffic Management Policy follows recommendations made by the Economy Transport and Environment Select Committee Task and Finish 20mph Working Group and approved by the Universal Services Transport and Environment Select Committee on 23 January 2023. This also takes account of the findings of the public consultation exercise undertaken during the Summer of 2022. The revised position will be integrated into the broader Traffic Management Policy and Guidance.
- 2.2. 20mph schemes implemented on suitable roads and in suitable areas can help support the principles of the County Council's Local Transport Plan 4 and are frequently requested by groups representing the local community, including many parish and town councils. 20 mph speed limits and zones can also encourage modal shift towards more active and healthier forms of sustainable travel such as walking and cycling and may result in reductions in motorised traffic flow on the road. They are most appropriate in urban residential areas, village environments and shopping streets, and on routes forming part of an Active Travel Scheme.

2.3. The revision to the Hampshire County Council Traffic Management Policy provides a framework for considering and prioritising 20mph speed limits and zones whilst also helping to ensure that schemes will be successful in terms of driver compliance, taking into account several other factors which are of particular relevance such as collision and casualty history, community support, frontage development, compliance with existing mean speeds, road geometry and engineering, composition of road users (including existing and potential levels of vulnerable road users), road characteristics and environment, e.g. proximity to schools, shops etc, the needs of vulnerable road users, road hierarchy, and function.

3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. To retain the status quo and not make any changes to the existing Traffic Management Policy that focuses the County Council's limited traffic management resources on measures and projects, including 20mph speed limits or zones, where there is evidence that they will benefit casualty reduction by responding to issues at locations with the greatest scope to reduce casualties. This option has been rejected given that it would not allow 20mph restrictions to be considered or implemented to support community funded aspirations or Active Travel schemes, in new housing developments designed with low traffic speeds in mind or community funded schemes.

4. Conflicts of interest:

- 4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker:
- 4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted:

5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: none.

6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: not applicable.

7. Statement from the Decision Maker:

I thank the Select Committee for its input in scrutinising this item and welcome the suggestion of a self-assessment form that local authorities can use ahead of applying for a 20mph area, which will be investigated by officers.

Approved by:	Date:
	15 January 2024
Executive Lead Member for Universal Services	

Executive Lead Member for Universal Ser Councillor Nick Adams-King