

Report to the Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation)

Date: 30 September 2014

Subject: 2014/ 2015 20mph schemes – Coppice Wood, Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Otley and Yeadon, Guiseley and Rawdon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

- 1 The Best Council Plan 2013-17 outlines how Leeds City will achieve its ambition to become the Best City in the UK and Leeds City Council the best local authority. According to the Best Council Plan, the success of the Best Council objective: ensuring high quality public services, will be partly measured through reduced numbers of people Killed or Seriously Injured on the city's roads. By reducing vehicles speeds will provide a safer environment for all road users and the ongoing provision of 20mph zones and limits will contribute to this objective being achieved. As children are ranked amongst the most vulnerable road users, the provision of 20mph speeded limits and zones concentrated around schools and their surrounding residential areas will help in creating a safer road environment to actively encourage children in more active modes of travel on journeys to school, contributing to the Leeds Education Challenge, which is part of the objective to build a child friendly city, delivery of the Better Lives programme and contribution to "Public Health which is embedded and effectively delivering health protection and health improvement".
- 2 As part of the ongoing 20mph schemes programme, following guidance and recommendation from the Department for Transport (Dft), this report seeks approval to introduce a 20mph zone in the Coppice Wood area of Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon. This report also seeks approval to formalise the existing school keep clear markings that are located outside of Queensway Primary School and introduce traffic calming features on Coppice Wood Avenue.

Recommendations

- 2 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:
 - i) authorise, subject to public consultation and the WBI funding confirmation, the detailed design and implementation of a scheme to introduce a 20 mph zone, including traffic calming features on Coppice Wood Avenue, in the Coppice Wood area of Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon.
 - ii) give authority to advertise a Notice for the road humps that conforms with the Highways Act 1980 (90c Notice);
 - iii) Instruct the City Solicitor to:
 - a) advertise a draft Speed Limit Order, to introduce a 20 mph zone in the Coppice Wood area of Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon, as shown on drawing TMW/27/1952/HB;
 - b) advertise a draft Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a formal restriction, subject to consultation with the individual school, on the existing school keep clear markings outside of Queensway Primary School as shown on drawing TMW/27/1952/HB.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 To seek approval for the implementation of a scheme for the introduce a 20 mph zone in the Coppice Wood area of Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon, as shown on drawing TMW/27/1952/HB;
- 1.2 To seek approval to advertise a draft Speed Limit Order (SLO), draft Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) and 90c Notice and if no valid objections are received, to make and seal the SLO and TRO as advertised.

2 Background information

- 2.1 As part of the Governments changes on speed management the DfT published new guidance on 20mph schemes. The guidance encourages local authorities to introduce more 20mph speed limits and 20mph zones and clearly highlights a more flexible approach in the use of 20mph speed limits, particularly where pedestrian and cyclist movements are high, such as around schools, shops, markets, playgrounds and other areas which are not part of any major through route.
- 2.2 The objective of the schemes is to improve road safety and reduce the mean speed of vehicles in the vicinity of schools and surrounding residential areas, thus provide an improved and safer environment for the local community and encourage children to walk and cycle to school.
- 2.3 The 20 mph schemes programme is a well established element of the Leeds City Council's programme of road casualty reduction and sustainable travel in residential areas.

- 2.4 DfT figures indicate that 20 mph speed limit schemes where there are safety issues give good rates of return and typically pay for themselves within two years. There is now a greater need to deal with area based schemes, as the worst individual locations have been tackled previously.
- 2.5 This approach has now been adopted for the last three phases which are summarised in Appendix A and this report details one of the sites to be included within the 2014/2015 phase of works.
- 2.6 The accident history within the proposed zone in the past five year period to date shows two injury collisions with both being recorded as 'slight' and one involving a child pedestrian.
- 2.7 Officers received a request from Ward Members for the introduced of a 20mph scheme in this location. Whilst agreeing that a 20mph scheme in this location would be of benefit, as other prospective 20mph scheme areas had a higher eligibility for implementation, this area could not be prioritised in the current 20mph scheme programme. Ward Members subsequently requested that the scheme be introduced in the current financial year with funding being made available from them.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 It is provisionally estimated that the wider project could achieve a 10% reduction in casualties with a financial return of 100% on funds expended over the first year. This is comparable with the present average for the 20 mph zones.
- 3.2 It is anticipated that implementation of each individual scheme within the wider project will be complete within the 2014/2015 financial year.
- 3.3 It is also anticipated that the schools will also receive a positive change in the modal shift for the school journey, with parents being encouraged to allow children to walk or cycle to school.
- 3.4 The impacts of the aforementioned 20 mph limit project will be monitored as part of the wider road casualty reduction programme. The modal shift of the school journey will be monitored via the School Travel Plans and additional surveys where required.
- 3.5 **Design Proposals and Full Scheme Description.**
- 3.5.1 The area that is to be included within the 20mph zone is shown on drawing TMW/27/1952/HB.
- 3.5.2 The full extent of these proposals are shown on the attached drawings, which show the boundary of the proposed zone.

- 3.5.3 Traffic calming is proposed to be introduced on Coppice Wood Avenue outside of the school.
- 3.5.4 Repeater signs are proposed within the zone to highlight the proposed speed limit. Speed limit signs are proposed at all entrances to the zone.
- 3.5.5 As part of the works to increase safety outside the schools, it is proposed to formalise the existing school keep clear markings outside of Queensway Primary School. The specific times of the restriction will be subject to consultation with the school.

3.6 Programme

It is anticipated that the proposal will be implemented within the 2014/ 2015 financial year.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Ward Members: Ward Members were consulted by letter on the 02 February 2014 and are happy for the scheme to be taken forward with part funding being allocated by Ward Members.
- 4.1.2 Emergency Services and Metro were consulted by letter and email on the 02 February 2014 with no objections received.
- 4.1.3 The school within the proposed areas will be contacted with regards to the proposals, asking for comment and to specify what specific times they would prefer to see applied to the school keep clear markings.
- 4.1.4 The general public will be consulted via notices on street lighting columns during the public advertisement phase, along with an advert in the Yorkshire Post newspaper.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 A full Equality, Diversity / Cohesion and Integration impact assessment has been carried out for 20mph schools schemes.
- 4.2.2 Positive Impact: Making 20mph the normal speed limit would:
- Provide safer passage whilst crossing the road to all pedestrians, especially those with mobility issues, disabled people, parents supporting pushchairs and young and old people
 - Greater independence and choice for children travelling to school
 - Dramatically increases chances of survival if hit by a car to 97%
 - Make it more pleasant to walk or cycle, encouraging a more healthy lifestyle
 - Reduce pollution and noise.
 - Improve quality of life for the local community

4.2.3 Negative Impact: Making 20mph the normal speed limit would:

- Slight reduction in air quality due to lower speeds, however this is offset by the potential reduction in accidents.

4.3 Council Policies and City Priorities

4.3.1 The proposals contained in the report have no implications for the council constitution.

4.3.2 By providing a safer road environment where needed and justified, the ongoing 20mph zone programme is helping to achieve Leeds' ambition to become the Best City by reducing the number of pedestrians killed or seriously injured on the city's roads, by fostering links between the communities and local facilities, especially where the highway forms a considerable barrier, and by enabling more sustainable travel choices for local journeys, including for new developments within the city.

4.3.3 Environmental Policy: The reduction in speed limit to 20mph will not have any significant impact on carbon emissions, air pollutants should remain similar to that of 30mph, however there may be reduced levels of traffic noise.

4.3.4 Local Transport Plan 3: **Strategic Approaches:**
Travel Choices: P10. Promote the benefits of active travel.
Connectivity: P18. Improve safety and security
P22. Develop networks and facilities to encourage cycling and walking.

4.3.5 Transport Policy Approval: The design instruction for this scheme was received in April 2014 and the proposed scheme is approved in principle by Transport Policy.

4.4 Resources and Value for Money

4.4.1 The estimated total cost to implement this scheme is £20,000 which comprises of £14,000 works costs, £4,000 staff fees, and £2,000 legal fees, to be part funded from Ward Based initiative funding (£5962), Well-Being Funding (£2488) and revenue funding (£11,550)

4.4.2 It is provisionally estimated that this project could achieve a 10% reduction in casualties with a financial return of 100% over the first year on funds expended. This is comparable with the present average for the 20 mph Zones.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

4.3.3 The scheme is in the Annual Programme and subject to resolving any objections received it is anticipated to be completed within the 2014/2015 financial year.

4.5 Risk Management

- 4.3.3 If no action was taken then access to the schools for pedestrians and cyclists will not improve and the potential of injury to pedestrians and cyclists will not be addressed.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The provision of new 20mph schemes will provide a safer environment around schools and residential areas thus encouraging more sustainable travel behaviours for all users. The scheme as detailed within this report will be of benefit to Queensway Primary School and the pupils attending.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 The Chief Officer (Highways and Transportation) is requested to:
- i) authorise, subject to public consultation and the WBI funding confirmation, the detailed design and implementation of a scheme to introduce a 20 mph zone, including traffic calming features on Coppice Wood Avenue, in the Coppice Wood area of Otley and Yeadon / Guiseley and Rawdon;
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 - b) advertise a draft Traffic Regulation Order to introduce a formal restriction, subject to consultation with the individual school, on the existing school keep clear markings outside of Queensway Primary School as shown on drawing TMW/27/1952/HB.

7 Background documents ¹

- 7.1 None.

Appendix A

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.

Summary of background information:

Following the announced changes to the 20mph regulations in conjunction with the established programme for 20mph zones in the city, a pilot programme for 20 mph Limits around 6 schools was undertaken in September 2011 with minimal features, thus at a reduced cost. These six sites had contained a total of 35 slight and 5 serious recorded injury accidents.

In September 2012 a further 10 sites were selected as part of Phase 2 which benefited 14 schools and 2 colleges. These 10 sites included 78 slight and 11 serious recorded injury accidents. Again this used minimal features in favour of repeater signs, which reduced the costs.

In the previous 2013/2014, the scheme was expanded as a further 24 sites were identified for implementation, to the direct benefit of 40 schools, 3 colleges, 2 nurseries and 1 children's centre. The areas included within this phase had a recorded 353 injury accidents over a five year period prior to implementation.