

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: New Communities Portfolio Holder 10 March 2009
AUTHOR/S: Executive Director / Corporate Manager (Planning and Sustainable Communities)

CAMBRIDGESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SPEED LIMIT REVIEWS ON A1303 MADINGLEY ROAD, A1307 HUNTINGDON ROAD AND A505 DUXFORD

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to agree the response to Cambridgeshire County Council's draft Traffic Orders on speed limit reviews on the A1303 Madingley Road, A1307 Huntingdon Road and A505 Duxford.

Background

2. Last year, following a review of its speed limit policy, the County Council committed to undertaking a review of all speed limits over 30mph on the A and B class road network in the county.
3. The County Council has assessed the roads using a new speed limit framework developed by the Department for Transport, as well as considering the environment and road characteristics. As a result of this assessment process, the County Council proposes to lower the speed limits on the A1303 Madingley Road, A1307 Huntingdon Road and A505 at Duxford.
4. Draft Traffic Orders have been formally advertised and comments can be made in support or objection to the speed limit changes until 9 March 2009. A map of each proposal is appended to this report.

A1303 Madingley Road

5. The section of Madingley Road from Storey's Way to the A428 St Neots Road roundabout has been divided into 3 lengths based on environment and road characteristics. The recommendations from the assessment review are that:
 - The current 40mph speed limit is reduced to 30mph from Storey's Way to JJ Thomson Avenue;
 - The 40mph will then extend from JJ Thomson Avenue to the M11 (adjacent to the start of the bus lane); and
 - A new 50mph from the bus lane to the A428 St Neots Road roundabout.

A1307 Huntingdon Road

6. The recommendation from the assessment review is that the speed limit on Huntingdon Road from Storey's Way, Cambridge out to and through Girton is to be reduced to 30mph, subject to alterations to road markings and signage to achieve compliance with the new limit.

A505 Duxford

7. The section of A505 between the M11 and A11 has been divided into 4 lengths based on environmental and road characteristics. The recommendations from this assessment review are that:
- The speed limits on the sections between the A1301 and A11 will remain at the current level;
 - The other sections between the A1301 and M11 will have the current limits reduced to 50mph.

Issues for South Cambridgeshire

8. Of the proposals advertised in the draft Traffic Orders, only parts of the A1303 and A1307 proposals fall within South Cambs district. Nevertheless these routes are key corridors for South Cambs' residents accessing Cambridge. The A505, a major route between the M11 and A11, is wholly within South Cambs.
9. The speed limit review is one means of addressing the number and severity of accidents. This will result in improvements to the benefit of South Cambridgeshire residents.

Proposed Response to Cambridgeshire County Council

10. As a result, it is suggested the Council make the following comments to Cambridgeshire County Council in response to the draft Traffic Orders on speed limit reviews on the A1303 Madingley Road, A1307 Huntingdon Road and A505 Duxford:

Support the proposed reductions to the speed limits along A1303 Madingley Road, A1307 Huntingdon Road and A505 Duxford.

Implications

11. Financial	None
Legal	None
Staffing	None
Risk Management	None
Equal Opportunities	A reduction in speed limits may improve safety and accessibility, particularly for vulnerable local residents.

Consultations

12. None.

Effect on Corporate Objectives and Service Priorities

13.	Work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future
	Cambridgeshire County Council, as the highways authority, is proposing the reduction of speed limits to the benefit of local residents.
	Deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all our community
	The reduction in speed limits will contribute to improving the quality environment for our community to live in within South Cambridgeshire.

Enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work
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The reduction in speed limits will contribute to improving the quality environment for our community to live in within South Cambridgeshire.
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Recommendations

14. It is recommended that the New Communities Portfolio Holder agree the response to Cambridgeshire County Council's consultation as set out in paragraph 10.

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