

By: David Beaver, Head of Network Management

To: Environment, Highways & Waste Policy Overview Committee - 16 July 2009

Subject: Circular Roads 1/2006 Setting Local Speed Limits, Update

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of the on-going county wide Speed Limit Review of A and B class roads. This report also sets out the way ahead and seeks approval to continue with the previously agreed programme.

1. Introduction

This is the latest in a series of reports (previous reports in September 06, January 07, 08 and 09 to Highways Advisory Board) on the speed limit review. The speed limit review has provided the council with an opportunity to provide a consistent standard of speed limit across the county councils "A" and "B" road network.

2. Progress to date

2.1 Work on the project effectively began in August 2006 with the publication of the governments document "Circular Roads 1/2006 " which gave guidance to highway authorities into the setting of speed limits and sought to provide a consistent national standard for speed limits across the country. Government also set a target that highway authorities should review the speed limits on their "A" and "B" roads to ensure that they complied with the guidance set out in the circular and implement those changes by 2011 without providing any extra funding.

2.2 After an analysis to establish crash rates on our "A" and "B" road network it was concluded that the review should start with a demonstration area. This would be followed by a programme of work to be conducted in three phases and will be completed in 2012/13, subject to funding availability. The table below shows the current programme. Members agreed funding of over £220,000 for the implementation of the demonstration area in January this year and work is now underway. Phase 1 which leads on from the demonstration area has been reviewed and is currently out for consultation and the review of Phase 2 is underway.

Financial year	scheme
2009/10	Implement demonstration project Detailed design & communication Phase 1 Review Phase 2
2010/11	Monitor demonstration project Implement Phase 1 Detailed design & communication Phase 2 Review Phase 3
2011/12	Monitor Phase 1 Implement Phase 2

	Detailed design & communication Phase 3
2012/13	Monitor Phase 2 Implement Phase 3
2013/14	Monitor Phase 3

2.3 Appendix 1 shows the areas covered by each of the phases, this demonstrates the scale of the challenge and the considerable amount of work involved. The phasing resulted from the initial crash study, which indicated that splitting the county into three areas was the best way to proceed. The findings of this study highlighted a particular concern with the A28. Therefore it was agreed that the two areas affected by the A28 would form phases 1 and 2 of the programme.

3. Consultation process.

3.1 Speed limits have a particular impact on local people; therefore we have endeavoured to ensure that parish councils and local county and district members were given first sight of the KHS Speed Limit Review report. This approach used in the demonstration area proved successful in providing the detailed information on proposed changes along with an explanation of the review and the rationale which was used to provide a consistent standard. We will ensure that once this has been done County and District councillors not local to the areas under study can be kept informed through POC and JTBs.

4. Results of the consultations

4.1 Presentations about the KHS Speed Limit Review report were given to parish councils, local county and district members in the phase 1 area on the 15th, 19th and 20 May (a list of those attending the meetings is provided in Appendix 2). These presentations included an opening address by the KCC Cabinet Member for Highways and Waste, Keith Ferrin. Officers from KHS then presented the rationale behind the recommendations, Kent Police Traffic Unit set out their position and Cllr. John Wilson spoke on behalf of the parish councils. In addition to the presentations copies of the KHS report were provided and the parish councils and members were invited to comment on the report's recommendations by 3rd August 2009. Parish councils and Members who were unable to attend the meeting were sent copies of the report and also asked to comment by the deadline.

4.2 Comments from the parish councils, individual residents, local Councillor and action groups will be given serious consideration. As in the demonstration project, a further report will then be produced and circulated to all those who wrote to the council. This report will identify any subsequent changes and/or a detailed explanation on why proposed changes could not be included. This review team will include the Kent Traffic Police and John Wilson. Details of the feed back and the subsequent review will be provided in a report to POC in January 2010 which will also seek funding for the implementation of the phase 1 area and a continuation of the review.

5. Phase 1 Report

5.1 Copies of the phase 1 report are available for members. It covers 12 "A" class roads and 17 "B" class roads (see Appendix 3 for a complete list of those roads). It covers 109 parish councils (see Appendix 4 for a complete list of those councils). The

report recommends reductions to 31 speed limits and increases to 15 which represent changes to 26% of the roads studied within the phase 1 area, a list of those changes is shown in Appendix 5.

6. “C” class and unclassified roads

6.1 At this time there is still insufficient time and funding to consider “C” and unclassified roads as part of this review, however such roads cannot be ignored. Therefore a crash remedial report can be produced where analysis indicates that a lower speed limit is wholly or partly able to contribute to fewer crashes on that section of road. Funding for that scheme provided through the small improvement’s budget its priority being set by processes outside this review.

7. Recommendations

7.1 It is recommended that the planned county wide Speed Limit Review should continue through to completion.

Background Documents:

Appendix 1.
Plan of Kent showing the 4 phases of work

Appendix 2.
List of attendees at the presentations

Contact: Ian Procter, Road Safety Manager

✉ ian.procter@kent.gov.uk
☎ 01622 666375

Jim Pearce, Senior Engineer, Road Safety

✉ jim.pearce@kent.gov.uk
☎ 01622 666372

Appendix 2

Parish Council	Meeting attended
Clerk to Bapchild Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Bearsted Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Benenden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Bethersden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Biddenden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Bobbing Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Borden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Boughton Malherbe Parish Council	Phone call - 07/05/09 - unable to attend
Clerk to Boughton Monchelsea Parish Council	Attended Lenham
Clerk to Boxley Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Bredgar Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Bredhurst Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Brookland Parish Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Broomfield and Kingswood Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Challock Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Charing Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Chart Sutton Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Chilham Parish Council	Attended Lenham
Clerk to Cranbrook Parish Council	E-mail - 11/05/09 - Cllr Francis Rook should be attending but failed to attend
Clerk to Detling Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Doddington Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Downswood Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to East Sutton Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Eastling Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Egerton Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Faversham Town Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Frittenden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Goodnestone Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Goudhurst Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Graveney with Goodnestone Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Harrietsham Parish Council	Attended Lenham
Clerk to Hartlip Parish Council	E-mail - 05/05/09 - Mr Graham Addicott OBE and one other will attend but failed to attend
Clerk to Hawkhurst Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Headcorn Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to High Halden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Hollingbourne Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Hothfield Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Chairman to Iwade Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Acting Clerk to Kenardington Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Kingsnorth Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Lamberhurst Parish Council	Invited but did not attend

Clerk to Langley Parish Council	Attended Lenham
Clerk to Leeds Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Lenham Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Leysdown Parish Council	E-mail - 15/05/09 - unable to attend
Clerk to Linton Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Little Chart Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Loose Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Lower Halstow Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Lynsted with Kingsdown Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Marden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Milstead Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Minster-on-Sea Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Newenden Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Newington Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Newnham Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Norton, Buckland and Stone Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Oare Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Ospringle Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Otham Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Pembury Parish Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Pluckley Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Queenborough Town Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Rodmersham Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Rolvenden Parish Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Ruckinge Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Sandhurst Parish Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Selling Parish Council	e-mail - 18/05/09 - unable to attend
Clerk to Shadoxhurst Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Sheldwich, Badlesmere and Leaveslane Parish Council	Attended lenham
Clerk to Smarden Parish Council	E-mail - 12/05/09 - unable to attend
Clerk to Stalisfield Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Staplehurst Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Stockbury Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Sutton Valence Parish Council	Attended Lenham
Clerk to Tenterden Town Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Teynham Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Throwley Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Thurnham Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Tonge Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Tovil Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Tunstall Parish Council	Attended Teynham
Clerk to Ulcombe Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Upchurch Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Warden Bay Parish Council	Invited but did not attend
Clerk to Westwell Parish Council	E-mail - 12/05/09 - unable to attend
Clerk to Wittersham Parish Council	Attended Tenterden
Clerk to Woodchurch Parish Council	Invited but did not attend

Appendix 3.

A and B roads in Phase 1 area

A roads	B roads
A229 North	B2080
A229 South	B2007
A262	B2008
A249	B2231
A20	B2006
A251	B2005
A252	B2163 (East of Linton)
A2	B2082
A250	B2067
A274	B2244
A28	B2086
A268	B2079
	B2045
	B2040
	B2041
	B2100
	B2162

Appendix 4
List of Parish councils in Phase 1 area

Ashford	Maidstone	Shepway	Swale	Tunbridge Wells
Charing	Aylesford	Snargate	Queenborough in Sheppey	Pembury
Egerton	Boxley	Brenzett	Minster on sea	Brenchley
Smarden	Bredhurst	Brookland	Eastchurch	Lamberhurst
Pluckley	Detling		Warden	Goudhurst
Little Chart	Thurnham		Leysdown	Cranbrook
Challock	Stockbury		Upchurch	Hawkhurst
Molash	Hucking		Iwade	Sandhurst
Chilham	Bicknor		Lower Halstow	Benenden
Westwell	Wormshill		Bobbing	Frittenden
Hothfield	Hollingbourne		Newington	
Eastwell	Bearsted		Hartlip	
Boughton Aluph	Downswood		Borden	
Great Chart with Singleton	Otham		Sittingbourne	
Stanhope	Loose		Tunstall	
Kingsnorth	Boughton Monchelsea		Bredgar	
Shadoxhurst	Linton		Tonge	
Woodchurch	Chart Sutton		Bapchild	
High Halden	Marden		Rodmersham	
Biddenden	Staplehurst		Milstead	
Rolvenden	Sutton Valence		Lynstead	
Newenden	Langley		Teynham	
Wittersham	Leeds		Norton, Buckland and Stone	
Stone-cum-Ebony	Broomfield and Kingswood		Doddington	
Appledore	East Sutton		Luddenham	
Kenardington	Ulcombe		Oare	
Warehorne	Headcorn		Faversham	
Orlestone	Harrietsham		Ospringe	
Tenterden	Frinted		Newnham	
Ruckinge	Wichling		Eastling	
	Lenham		Throwley	
	Otterden		Leaveland	
	Boughton Malherbe		Badlesmere	
			Sheldwick	
			Stalisfield	

Appendix 5

Routes and sections with an identified speed limit change – Phase 1

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A229 (South)	Between a point just to the north of the Leisure Centre, Angley Road, Cranbrook and the roundabout junction with the A262, Wilsley Pound.	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A262	Between the A229 Wilsley Pound and the western boundary of Sissinghurst.	60	Reduction to 50mph
	Between the western boundary of Biddenden and the 30mph gateway located adjacent to Orchard House, Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden	40	Part reduction to 30mph
	Between the eastern boundary of Biddenden and the A28 London Beach	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A20	Between the Maidstone River Bridge and a point immediately east of the entrance to Turkey Court, Ashford Road, Maidstone	30	Part increase to 40mph
	Between the western and eastern boundaries of Harrietsham, skirting the southern edge of the village	40	Part increase to 60

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A251	Between the A2 Faversham and a point some 120 metres south of the junction with the M2 slip road to/from the London bound carriageway.	40	Part reduction to 30mph
	Between a point immediately south of the five arm roundabout junction with Rutherford Road and a point immediately north of the A20 Drivers roundabout.	70	Reduction to 40mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A252	Between the eastern boundary of Challock and the western boundary of Molash	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A2	Between the Medway Unitary Authority boundary on the A2 London Road, Rainham and the western outskirts of Newington	40	Part increase to 50mph
	Between a point adjacent to number 41 Keycol Hill and the eastern outskirts of Sittingbourne	30	Part increase to 40mph
	Between the eastern outskirts of Teynham and a point just west of the junction with the Western Link Road, Ospringe	60	Part reduction to 50mph

	Between a point immediately east of the junction with Love Lane, Faversham and the junction with the M2 at Brenley Corner	50	Increase to 60
--	---	----	----------------

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A250	Between the Boating Lake, Halfway Road, Sheerness to a point just north of number 129 Halfway Road, Halfway.	40	Part increase to 60mph
	Site3 is located between a point just north of number 129 Halfway Road and the junction with Belgrave Road, Halfway	30	Part increase to 40mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A274	Between the southern boundary of Maidstone and the northern boundary of Sutton Valence	40	Part increase to 60
	Between the northern and southern boundaries of Sutton Valence	30	Part increase to 40
	Between the southern boundary of Sutton Valence and a point just south of the junction with South Lane	40	Part reduction to 30mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A28	Between a point some 100 metres north of the Tank roundabout and a point some 20 metres south of the junction with Hilton Road	30	Increase to 40mph
	Between a point some 70 metres south of the four arm roundabout junction with Chart Road and the B2229 Brookfield Road and a point some 30 metres north of the bend outside the dwelling of Spratts Barn, Bethersden	60	Part reduction to 50mph
	Between a point some 30 metres north of the bend outside the dwelling of Spratts Barn, Bethesden and a point some 50 metres north of Bull Bridge	40	Part increase to 50mph
	Site6 is located between a point some 50 metres north of Bull Bridge, Bethersden and a point some 50 metres north of the entrance to Ransley Farm, High Halden	60	Part reduction to 40mph and part reduction to 50mph
	Between a point some 50 metres north of the entrance to Ransley Farm and a point opposite the joint boundaries of the dwellings Oakland and Carmily	30	Part increase to 50mph
	Between a point opposite Milchester House and a point outside of the dwelling Little Orchards	60	Reduction to 50mph
	Between a point outside of the dwelling Little Orchards and a point some 20 metres north of the Fire Station entrance	40	Part reduction to 30mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
A268	Between Dickens Way, Hawkhurst and a point just east of the eastern property boundary of the dwelling Ridsen.	40	Part increase to 50mph

	Between the eastern boundary of Sandhurst and a point some 10m west of the western property boundary of the dwelling Sunny View, some 100 metres west of the junction with the A28	60	Part reduction to 50mph
--	--	----	-------------------------

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B2080	Between the junction with the A2067, East Hill and a point just east of the junction with Collison Place	40	Part reduction to 30mph
	Between the junction with Collison Place and the eastern outskirts of Appledore.	60	Part reduction to 50mph Part reduction to 60mph part NO CHANGE
	Between a point within the B2068, Tenterden Road some 150 metres west of the 'T' junction with The Street, Appledore and a point within The Street some 350 metres south of the 'T' junction, near No.75	40	Part reduction to 30mph part NO CHANGE
	Between the eastern outskirts of Appledore and the western outskirts of Brenzett	60	Part NO CHANGE and part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B2008	Between a point mid way between Warden Terrace and Norwood Cottage, Eastchurch Road, Minster and the junction with the B2231 Lower Road, Eastchurch.	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B2231	Between east of the junction with Church Road to Bay View	50	Part increase to 60mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B2005	Between the northern gateway of site1 and a point some 20 metres north of No. 145, Grovehurst Road	40	Reduction to 30mph
	Between the northern gateway of site2 and the northern point of the twin roundabout junction with the A249 trunk road	60	Part reduction to 30mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B2163	Between A229 at Linton and Langley Heath, which is situated north of the A274.	40	Part increase to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed

B208 2	Between a point just south of a property named The Pines, on the southern boundary of Tenterden and the northern boundary of Wittersham	60	Part reduction to 50 and part reduction to 40
	Between the northern and southern outskirts of Wittersham	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B206 7	Between a property named Liberty Bell and Knock Wood, Woodchurch Road, Tenterden and the western outskirts of Woodchurch	60	Part reduction to 50mph
	Between the eastern outskirts of Kenardington and the western outskirts of Hamstreet	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B224 4	Between The Old Vicarage and Collingwood Farm, Hastings Road.	40	Increase to 50mph
	Between Collingwood Farm and the East Sussex border. The site declines from north to south, with several slight bends at the northern end	60	Part reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B208 6	Between the junction with the A229, Hartley Road, Cranbrook and the western boundary of Benenden	60	Reduction to 50mph
	Between the western boundary of Benenden and a property named The Old Manor House, The Street, Benenden	40	Reduction to 30mph
	Between the eastern boundary of Benenden and the western boundary of Rolvenden	60	Reduction to 50mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B207 9	Between the southern gateway of site1 and the A21 trunk road	60	Part reduction to 50mph and Part reduction to 40mph

Route	Site	Existing	Proposed
B204 0	Between the site1 gateway, some 50 metres south of the mini roundabout junction with Graveney Road, and the junction with the A2 at Preston	40	Reduction to 30mph

***ROUTES NOT SHOWN HAVE NO PROPOSED CHANGES**