Surbiton Neighbourhood Committee
Thursday 7 July 2016

Christ Church School - Proposed 20mph speed restriction
Report by the Director of Place

**Purpose**
To consider an objection raised to a Traffic Management Order with proposals for a 20mph limit near Christ Church School, Surbiton.

**Recommendations**
That the Committee:

1. notes the objection received in response to the publication of the Traffic Management Order (TMO) as set out in paragraph 6.
2. the Committee comments on the proposed scheme ahead of its consideration by the Residents Committee on 14 September 2016.

**Key Points**

A. A Traffic Management Order (TMO) to introduce a 20mph speed limit in the vicinity of Christ Church School area was published on 3 June 2016. The affected area is shown on Annex 1 of the report (to follow).

B. One objection was received by the closing date for the receipt of objections on 24 June 2016. Two responses in support of the TMO were also received.

**Context**

1. The introduction of 20 mph speed limits remains an important and effective measure for reducing road casualties, enhancing safety for walking and cycling on roads where people work, live and shop, and encouraging these more sustainable travel modes. It is the Council's policy to introduce 20mph speed limits outside schools, in town centres and/or residential areas and where it is considered it will improve road safety, whilst not being detrimental to the overall flow of traffic.

2. Parents of pupils attending Christ Church School on Pine Gardens have raised concerns with the Council about traffic speeds in the area and the accident risk that these current speeds could present to children and other pedestrians and they have requested the introduction of a 20mph speed limit.

3. Officers have subsequently developed the proposed scheme, for the area shown on Annex 1, which will reduce the mean average speed, the risk of accidents and encourage sustainable travel.

**Proposal and Options**

4. The introduction of 20mph speed limit in sections of Pine Gardens, Manor Drive, Berrylands and whole of Manor Crescent.
5. Entry treatment at Pine Gardens junction with Pines Gardens to provide a safe crossing point for vulnerable road users and to encourage walking to school.

Objection Received

6. An email of objection was received. The resident raised the following concerns:

“It is my opinion that already very few vehicles find it possible to travel at speeds of more than 20 mph in these roads, especially at the busier times in the mornings and afternoons. A formal speed 20 mph speed limit will not change the traffic flows along these roads nor materially alter the traffic speeds.

I object to the 20 mph proposal on the basis that it will have a cost and that it is an unnecessary expense which will achieve little or nothing towards making the roads safer.”

RBK response:
While majority of mean speed is below 24mph, it also identified that there are a number of vehicles in each of the roads that were driving at speeds of over 24 mph, which presents potential risks. By implementing an official 20mph speed limit it is expected that this number will be reduced.

Consultations

7. The draft TMO was published on 3 June 2016 with a closing date for comments of 24 June 2016. Notices were placed in the streets affected and letters and plans showing the proposed TMO extents were also delivered to all residents and schools within the proposed area.

8. A total of 3 responses were received, 1 objecting to the proposals, and 2 in support.

Timescale

9. If the Residents Committee sets aside the objection on 14 September 16, works to implement the scheme will be carried out at the school Christmas break.

Resource Implications

10. The scheme is estimated to cost £7000.

Legal Implications

11. None.

Risk Assessment

12. The introduction of 20 mph speed limits will promote the message of road safety in these residential roads and help reduce the risk of road traffic accidents. The scheme does not involve any additional physical speed reducing features except
the entry treatment on Pine Gardens and should reduce the risk and severity of accidents to the benefit of the whole community.

Equalities Impact Assessment

13. No change to the existing policy.

Environmental Implications

14. The new 20mph speed limit introduction would encourage more sustainable travel mode at school areas.

Background papers -

- Draft Traffic Management Order
- Letters to residents regarding draft TMO and Public Notice dated 1 June 2016
- emails/letters of objection.
- emails/letters of support.

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