

Executive Director Place Services	Ref No: HON9025
Delegated Officer Report – April 2020	Key Decision: No
Tower Hill and Christ’s Hospital Road – Southwater Proposed Traffic Regulation Order	Part I
Report by Head of Highway Engineering	Electoral Division(s): Southwater & Nuthurst

Summary

In response to concerns raised about traffic speeds on Christ’s Hospital Road and Tower Hill/Two Mile Ash Road a study has been undertaken.

Following the study it is proposed to introduce a 30mph speed limit in the vicinity of the school, on Christ’s Hospital Road and Tower Hill/Two Mile Ash Road

Following advertisement and statutory consultation, 3 comments of objection were received which have been summarised in Appendix B to this Report.

Recommendation

That the Director of Highways Transport and Planning authorises the Director of Law and Assurance to make the Order as advertised.

Proposal

1. Background and Context

- 1.1 Tower Hill is currently subject to the National Speed Limit and provides access to Christ’s Hospital School. Concerns have been raised locally about an increase in vehicular movements to and from Christ’s Hospital School that has a larger in-take of day students. The School also has plans to expand the sports and leisure complex. There are also concerns that vehicles are speeding when travelling from the school along Tower Hill up to Worthing Road.
- 1.2 Speed data obtained shows current traffic speeds are in accordance with the Speed Limit Policy for a 30mph speed limit. A route assessment has been undertaken and it is considered that a 30mph speed limit is appropriate on lengths of Tower Hill/Two Mile Ash Road and on the section of Christ’s Hospital Road from Two Mile Ash Road up to the School
- 1.3 The proposed lower speed limit is considered more appropriate for a route with numerous entry and exits to private properties and aims to create a safer environment by discouraging vehicles from travelling at high speeds.

2. Proposal

2.1 The TRO proposal will introduce a 30mph speed limit on:-

- (a) Tower Hill/Two Mile Ash Road from Worthing Road westwards and south-westwards to a point 104 metres south of Two Mile Ash Road; and
- (b) Christ's Hospital Road from Two Mile Ash Road westwards to Infirmary Drive

2.2 This Order is proposed for avoiding danger to persons or other traffic using the road or for preventing the likelihood of any such danger arising, and for preserving or improving the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

2.3 Plans of the proposal are in [Appendix A](#).

3. Resources

3.1 The TRO advertising costs have been met and the implementation costs will be met by Christ's Hospital School. Once implemented all ongoing maintenance costs will be met from the Highway maintenance revenue budget.

Factors taken into account

4. Consultation

- 4.1 **Members** - At the design stage, the local member for Southwater and Nuthurst was consulted and supported the proposals.
- 4.2 **External** – Sussex Police were consulted at design stage and raised no objection.
- 4.3 **Public** - The three week statutory consultation for the TRO ran between 10 October 2019 and 31 October 2019. Notification of this was sent directly to a range of stakeholders including the Police and emergency services, the District Council, bus companies and motoring organisations. During this consultation period a copy of plans and a statement of reasons were placed at the local library, and the advertisement placed in the West Sussex County Times and on the County Council's website.
- 4.4 During the consultation period, three comments of objection were received. These have been summarised in [Appendix B](#) to this report together with comments from the Director of Highways Transport & Planning.
- 4.5 The local County Councillor has confirmed their continued support for the proposals and is content that the objection is progressed through the Delegated Officer reporting procedure.

5. Risk Management Implications

- 5.1 Should the proposed TRO not be made the risk to the County Council is that there would be a failure to address the local concerns raised
- 5.2 Should the TRO be made the risk to the County Council is that the new speed limit may not be complied with and require further traffic calming measures. That risk is mitigated to some extent by the speed data showing existing traffic speeds comply with the proposed 30mph speed limit.

6. Other Options Considered

- 6.1 The extent of the proposed 30mph speed limit is supported by Speed Data and complies with the Speed Limit Policy

7. Equality Duty

- 7.1 The Equality Act 2010 bans unfair treatment and seeks equal opportunities in the workplace and in wider society. It also imposes a Public Sector Equality Duty. The protected characteristics are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage/civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 7.2 The protected characteristics have been duly considered and assessed in the course of the consideration of this proposal. No relevant or disproportionate impact upon any of the protected characteristics in the Equality Act 2010 has been identified in the consideration of the proposals detailed in this Report.

8. Social Value

- 8.1 The proposal is considered to meet with the County Council's Social Value Policy in that it aims to improve the local road environment for the residents and users of Tower Hill and Christ's Hospital Road.

9. Crime and Disorder Act Implications

- 9.1 The County Council does not consider there to be any foreseeable Crime and Disorder Act implications associated with this proposal. The view of Sussex Police has been sought, who confirm they believe there are no issues in relation to the Crime and Disorder Act.

10. Human Rights

- 10.1 It is unlawful for a public authority to act in a way that is incompatible with a convention right. The policy objective to avoid danger to all road users and reduce congestion should then be set against these rights. Taking these points into consideration it is believed that the introduction of this Traffic Regulation Order is still justified.

Matt Davey

Director of Highways Transport & Planning

Contact: Becky Caney – Chartered Legal Executive

Appendices

[Appendix A – plans of advertised proposals](#)

[Appendix B – summary of objections](#)

Background Papers - None