

Bath & North East Somerset Council

DECISION MAKER:	Cllr Charles Gerrish, Cabinet Member for Service Delivery		
DECISION DATE:	On or after 26 th March 2011	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:	
		E	2218
TITLE:	Claverton Down Road proposed extension of 30mph speed limit		
WARD:	Bathwick		
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM			
List of attachments to this report: Appendix A – Objections received to the advertised Traffic Order Appendix B - Scheme drawing:- AWR/TC8725/01			

1 THE ISSUE

- 1.1 To consider objections to the proposed 30mph speed limit extension on Claverton Down Road, Bath.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Cabinet member is asked to agree that:

- 2.1 The objections are noted and that consideration is given to extend the 30mph limit further.
- 2.2 In light of the general support of the proposed scheme and its safety benefits, it is recommended that the extension of the 30mph speed limit is approved as proposed, and consideration is given at a later date to further extend the 30mph speed limit.

3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 There is sufficient budget within the Transport Improvement Programme to cover the costs of extending the limit as proposed.
- 3.2 If the TRO is not approved as advertised, the 30/40 mph speed limit will remain as it is and the scheme will go no further. The majority of the budget for this scheme has been spent on preparatory work, but approximately £2k would be available for other transport improvement schemes in this financial year.
- 3.3 If a decision is made to develop a revised scheme for inclusion in a future capital programme, the new scheme would be subject to the Council's standard process for capital projects and funding would need to be identified from within the Transport Improvement Programme.

4 CORPORATE PRIORITIES

- *Building communities where people feel safe and secure*
- *Improving life chances of disadvantaged teenagers and young people*
- Improving transport and the public realm

5 THE REPORT

- 5.1 The proposals were advertised on the 3rd February 2011 and the objection period terminated on the 24th February 2011.
- 5.2 Eight written objections were received (see Appendix A for a summary objector's reasons).
- 5.3 The objectors wanted the 30mph speed limit extended further than proposed. One respondent objected to the proposal because it would not address the road safety problems near Claverton Down Community centre.
- 5.4 The Police support the extension of the 30mph speed limit as proposed.

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 The report author and Cabinet member have fully reviewed the risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.

7 EQUALITIES

- 7.1 The effect of the scheme on all groups is considered to be equitable. However the disabled and vulnerable road user group would get the greatest benefit from the scheme.

8 RATIONALE

- 8.1 The proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit on Claverton Down Road is required to reduce the number/severity of road traffic accidents at the Norwood Avenue junction, and for future junction improvements.
- 8.2 The scheme will improve the road safety for all road users and therefore meets the Council's requirements of road safety, traffic calming and community safety priorities.

9 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 9.1 Reducing the speed limit to 30mph along the full length of Claverton Down Road was considered.
- 9.2 Extending the limit further beyond Rainbow Wood Farm. This can not be done to this proposal as the Traffic Regulation Order has to stand as advertised. The length of the limit as shown in the schedule to this order can not be increased. The limit can only be extended further by processing a new TRO.
- 9.3 Both of these options are considered to be inappropriate for this road. Road speed limits are set to specific government guidelines and should generally reflect the nature, geometry, environment of the road and speed of the traffic. They should also be self enforcing. If they are not, additional speed reduction measures are necessary.
- 9.4 It is appreciated that the road is used by vulnerable groups but lowering the speed limit won't by itself reduce the speed of traffic.
- 9.5 The Police won't support a reduction to 30mph other than that proposed.

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 *Ward Councillor; Cabinet members; Other B&NES Services.*
- 10.2 The formal consultation in February 2011 was carried out by e-mail to statutory consultees providing details of the proposal with a plan and statement of reasons attached. The proposal was also advertised in accordance with legal requirements, in the press and on street.

11 ISSUES TO CONSIDER IN REACHING THE DECISION

- 11.1 Customer focus.

12 ADVICE SOUGHT

- 12.1 The Council's Monitoring Officer (Divisional Director – Legal and Democratic Services) and Section 151 Officer (Divisional Director - Finance) have had the opportunity to input to this report and have cleared it for publication.

Contact person	<i>Tony Rutter, tel 01225 394207</i>
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	