

INFORMATION NOTE: HIGHWAY ISSUES – 20 MPH LIMITS AND ZONES IN HITCHIN AND LOCAL BUS SERVICES IN HITCHIN UPDATE

THE PLANNING POLICY AND PROJECTS MANAGER

To inform Members on the latest position regarding 20mph limits and a new Sunday bus service in Hitchin.

20MPH SPEED LIMITS

County Councillors Judi Billing and Derrick Ashley have been advised of the wishes of the Hitchin Committee to proceed with the application for 20 mph in Bearton Ward, Hitchin.

Following receipt of the Hitchin Area Committee's request in 2014, the list of roads being promoted by County Councillor Judi Billing for inclusion within the proposed 20mph Zone(s) was reviewed and roads added if not already included on the list.

The roads as listed below have been included in the assessment by HCC. HCC will not know which roads would require traffic calming (or just speed limit signs) until the assessment is complete.

Roads to be included within the 20mph assessment.

- 1.Lancaster Road
- 2.Lancaster Avenue
- 3.York Road
- 4.Bunyan Road
- 5.Dukes Lane
- 6.Florence Street
- 7.Kings Road
- 8.Alexandra Road
- 9.Brampton Park Road
- 10.Balmoral Road
- 11.Dacre Road
- 12.Radcliffe Road
- 13.Whitehurst Road
- 14.Wilton Road
- 15.The north end of Ickleford Road
- 16.Baliol Road
- 17.Bearon Road
- 18.Stormont Road
- 19.Periwinkle Lane
- 20.Water Lane
- 21.The length of Ickleford Road not included at 15 above.

Councillor Billing is funding the assessment of these roads through her Highways Locality Budget (HLB). Surveys of existing traffic speeds are currently taking place and it is expected that the assessment will be concluded and proposals finalised in the current financial year. The assessment will be based on speed limit criteria contained within the County Council's Speed Management Strategy.

Once the proposed coverage of the 20mph Zone(s) has been finalised, Councillor Billing intends to utilise further HLB funding in 2015/16 to progress the necessary legal consultations/notices, through to introduction of the Traffic Regulation Order and associated speed limit signing on site. The new 20 zones are likely to be in place towards the end of 2015/16.

Lance Holman (Lance.Holman@hertfordshire.gov.uk) at HCC is overseeing the current assessment of the 20mph speed limits and a full list of 20mph limits can be requested.

Any further requests for 20mph can be raised with the relevant County Councillor for the area. Hertfordshire County Council does not have any core funding for 20mph limits. Therefore the best route would be for members to raise it with their County Councillor to see if they would be willing to fund it via their Highways Locality Budget.

POTENTIAL NEW SUNDAY SERVICE IN HITCHIN

Councillor D Ashley has put forward a proposal for a Sunday bus service in Hitchin. The route will cover Westmill Road and Nine Springs Way. This will be on a 6 month trial basis and funding will come from his Highways Locality Budget as well as other funding streams. The route is currently in HCC's tender round which closed on Friday 9th of January 2015. This route does not currently have a route number and will need to be discussed with the winning tenderer. No other details can be given at this time as procurement is still being finalised.

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