# PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT REDUCTION, QUEENBOROUGH & HALFWAY HOUSES, ISLE OF SHEPPEY

To: Swale Joint Transportation Board – 18 December 2017

By: Tim Read, Head of Transportation, Kent County Council

Classification: Unrestricted

Ward: Queenborough and Halfway Ward, Swale District

Summary: This report gives details of a proposed reduction in the speed

limit from 30mph to 20mph in numerous residential roads in the Queenborough and Halfway ward. At the previous JTB, held in September 2017, it was tabled that additional roads possibly be included in the proposed 20mph schemes. The

findings are presented below.

#### For Recommendation

#### 1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 From 1 April 2013 Kent County Council became responsible for a number of Public Health functions. One of these was the health improvement of the population of Kent. This has enabled a selection of priority sites to be identified by public health indicators such as incidences of Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), obesity and deprivation. The Local Transport Plan is funding £50,000 of investment in public health led 20mph schemes in 2016-17. The 20mph Public Health schemes are predominantly signing and road markings only and will not include physical engineering measures to maximise the number of sites that can be included within the available budget
- 1.2 In recent years the demand for the implementation of 20mph schemes had been increasing in response to both national and local campaigns, therefore Kent County Council propose to implement 20mph Public Health Schemes in Queenborough & Halfway. There is evidence that 20mph schemes encourage healthier transport modes such as walking and cycling.
- 1.3 Following numerous objections a report detailing resident's concerns was presented at the Swale JTB, held on 11<sup>th</sup> September 2017. It was agreed that all the proposed roads presented should progress to a 20mph. A further request, by councillors, was tabled that additional roads be included in both the Queenborough and Halfway proposed schemes.

#### 2.0 Review

- 2.1 Halfway The following are presented as the additional roads requested with a view for a possible inclusion into the proposed scheme St Katherine Road, Danley Road and Filer Road. A review, by KCC Highways officers, has determined that these roads are suitable to be included in this scheme. It should be noted that no formal TRO consultation has been undertaken. If the JTB approve the progression of this scheme these roads will be consulted upon without a referral, of any objections received, back to the JTB.
- 2.2 Queenborough The following roads are presented with a view for inclusion in the scheme North Road and Main Road. A review has determined that these roads cannot be included in the proposed scheme, at this time. The last available speed survey indicated that North Road has mean speeds over the 24mph indicator that KCC require for roads to be included in such a self-enforcing 20mph scheme without installing traffic calming features. Further speed surveys are being carried out on both roads.

#### 3.0 The Consultation

3.1 As the initial scheme was consulted upon, where numerous objections were received, it is recommended that the additional roads requested will require formal consultation.

#### 4.0 Corporate Implications

#### 4.1 Financial and VAT

4.1.1 None for Swale Borough Council.

#### 4.2 Legal

4.2.1 None for Swale Borough Council.

#### 4.3 Corporate

4.3.1 None for Swale Borough Council.

## 5.0 Recommendation(s)

5.1 JTB Members agree to the implementation of all the proposed speed limit changes in Halfway.

Contact Officer:	Ian Grigor, Schemes Project Manager , Kent County Council, 03000 418181
Reporting to:	Tim Read, Head of Transportation, Kent County Council, 03000 418181

## **Background Papers**

Title	Details of where to access copy
Whole file	Highway Services, Kent County Council

## **Appendix A – Consultation Document**





# The Isle of Sheppey THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

# PUBLIC HEALTH SCHEME (HALFWAY HOUSES AND QUEENBOROUGH)

From 1 April 2013 Kent County Council became responsible for a number of Public Health functions. One of those was the health improvement for the population of Kent. In recent years the demand for the implementation of 20mph schemes had been increasing in response to both local and national campaigns, therefore Kent County Council are intending to implement 20mph Public Health Schemes in the following two locations, Halfway Houses and Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey.

There is evidence that 20mph schemes encourage healthier transport modes such as walking and cycling as in Bristol, where preliminary results indicated increases in levels of walking and cycling of over 20%. An increase in the implementation of 20mph schemes could assist in the outcome and improving the overall health of the population by identifying locations for 20mph schemes which would assist with delivering targets set out in Kent's Joint Health Wellbeing Strategy.

The policy feeds into the new Road Casualty Reduction Strategy which was being developed by Highways & Transportation to assist with meeting targets set out in Bold Steps for Kent and delivering the priorities set out in Growth without Gridlock (GWG).

The current safety record of the existing 20mph schemes in Kent where a mix of both limits and zones showed that casualties recorded on 20mph roads in Kent as a proportion of all roads were 2% less than the national average.

Details of the 20mph Public Health Scheme and a map indicating the locations of the scheme may be examined Mondays to Friday at The Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ and at The Kent County Council, Highway, Transportation & Waste, Ashford Highway Depot, Henwood Industrial Estate, Unit 4 Javelin Way, Ashford, Kent TN24 8AD during normal office hours or viewed online at <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations">www.kent.gov.uk/highwaysconsultations</a>

If you wish to offer support or object to the proposed scheme you should send your response in writing to, the TRO Co-ordinator, Schemes Planning & Delivery Team, Highways, Transportation & Waste, Kent County Council, Ashford Highway Depot, Henwood Industrial Estate, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk by Monday 31st July 2017.

#### Roger Wilkin

Director Highways Transportation & Waste



