

## SEVENOAKS JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD – 14 MARCH 2012

### PETITION – LONDON ROAD, WESTERHAM

Report of the: Kent County Council Director of Highways and Transportation

Status: For Consideration

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**Executive Summary:** This report describes a petition received by Westerham Parish Council. It requests traffic calming to be put in place on London Road as they believe it is difficult to cross at the existing zebra crossing.

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This report supports the Key Aim of Reducing speed, encouraging safer driving and tackling known speeding crash hotspots. Also improving pedestrian safety, including measures to improve access for people with disabilities as indicated in the Sevenoaks Community Plan.

Chairman Cllr James London

Head of Service Kent County Council Highways and Transportation – Head of Transportation – Tim Read

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#### Recommendations: That:

- (i) the highway authority does not pursue any engineering measures specific to reducing traffic speed;
  - (ii) the only action taken in respect of this petition based on Police advice is to install a zebra crossing warning triangle accompanied by a “SLOW” marking in the road; and
  - (iii) the lead petitioner is informed of this Board’s decision.
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#### Background and Discussion

- 1 A petition signed by 205 people has been received from Westerham Parish Council. A copy of the petition is included as Appendix A.
- 2 The petitioners are requesting that traffic calming is implemented on London Road as they believe it is dangerous to cross at the existing zebra crossing.
- 3 The current speed limit of London Road is 30mph and is correctly signed.
- 4 The 10 year crash record for zebra crossing on London showed that there has been 1 personal injury accident. This is a very low frequency of crashes for any zebra crossing. There is no pattern of crashes on this road, and this means that engineering methods to reduce the speed of traffic would not make the road safer.

- 5 Kent County Council consulted the Police and their response is attached as Appendix B.
- 6 The County Council's policy is that the installation of any speed-reducing measures needs to demonstrate a quantifiable injury crash saving. Such schemes will need to be supported by the Police and prioritised for potential inclusion in the Crash Remedial Measure (CRM) Programme for 2012 / 13.

### Key Implications

#### Financial; Resource (non-financial); Legal etc.; Value For Money

- 7 None for Sevenoaks District Council. The cost of the works described in Recommendation (ii) will be met from Kent County Council's traffic sign budget.

### Risk Assessment Statement

- 8 None.

### Conclusions

- 9 The County Council's policy is that the installation of speed-reducing measures needs to demonstrate a quantifiable injury crash saving. Such schemes will need to be supported by the Police and prioritised for potential inclusion in the Crash Remedial Measure (CRM) Programme for 2012 / 13.
- 10 After consulting with the Police, it is recommended that Kent County Council install zebra crossing warning signs accompanied by a white "SLOW" marking in the carriageway.
- 11 In light of the above Members are asked to agree the recommendations.

### Appendices

- A Sample page of petition.
- B Letter from the Police.

**Sources of Information:** Petition (14 pages) – KCC file CSM 15802617

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