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**PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT CHANGES VARIOUS ROADS IN  
THE DISTRICT OF SEVENOAKS.**

To: **Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board – 9 March 2021**

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

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Local Electoral Division: **Sevenoaks West**

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**Summary:** This report provides details of the consultation that took place for the proposed reduction of current speed limits to various roads in Westerham (promoted by Westerham Town Council and Nick Chard, County Member for Sevenoaks West) and that the Board recommends implementation of the proposed 20mph and 30mph speed limits.

**For Recommendation**

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**1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 The objective of the scheme is to encourage driver compliance with lower speeds through the town therefore making the town safer for all methods of transport. The proposals see the speed limit lowered on the 4 main approaches to the Town
- 1.2 A location plan for this scheme can be found in **Appendix A**.
- 1.3 **Appendix B** lists the roads proposed to have a 20mph or a 30mph speed limit (Table 1 and Table 2).
- 1.4 The proposed scheme will:
- Reduce the existing posted speed limits on various access roads and local distributor routes in Westerham, using a combination of repeater signs and roundels road markings.
  - Entry points into the new speed zones will be highlighted by new entry speed limit terminal signs.
  - Existing signs will be incorporated into proposals to reduce street clutter.
- 1.5 The drawings used for the consultation Appendix B to this report have been subject to a Road Safety Audit.

**2.0 The Consultation**

- 2.1 A consultation with local residents and other stakeholders took place on Friday, 6 November until Monday 30 November 2020.

2.2 At the end of the consultation a total of 67 responses were received 53 (79%) in favour and 14 (21%) objecting.

Of the sixty seven (67) positive responses received from the consultation, the overall majority support the: Lower speed limits promoting safer environments for vulnerable highway users - mobility impaired, wheelchair users, pedestrians, cyclists etc

1. Reducing the speed limit will help to lessen the air and noise pollution.
2. support proposals to reduce speed limit to 20mph on lengths of road in consultation because it will improve pedestrian safety.

Of the fourteen (14) objections it was noted that objections could be filtered into 3 main reasons for objecting. These are as follows.

- a. The 20mph speed limit will not be adhered to.
- b. Current speeds are acceptable.
- c. Lower speed limits will increase congestion.

2.3 **Appendix C** provides the objection comments and responses.

### **3.0 Corporate Implications**

#### **3.1 Financial and VAT**

The estimated cost for the full proposals is £25,000 with Nick Chard contribution £15,000 from his Combined Member Grant and Westerham Town Council contributing the remainder should the proposals be supported.

#### **3.2 Legal**

All works will be within the Highway for which Kent County Council is responsible.

#### **3.3 Corporate**

None.

### **4.0 Recommendation(s)**

4.1 That the Board recommends implementation of the proposed 20mph and 30mph speed limits.

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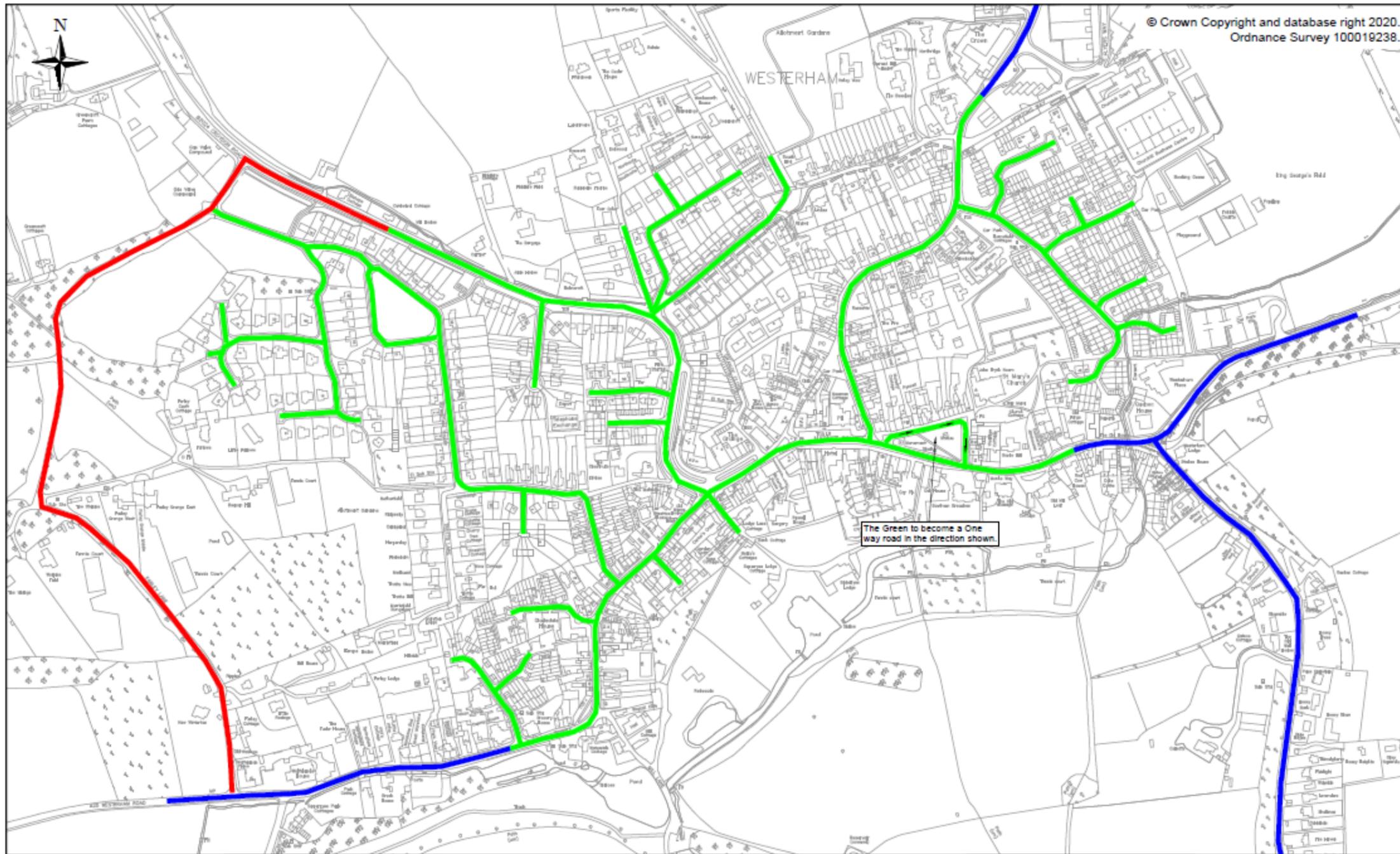
### **Appendices**

Appendix A - Location plan

Appendix B - List of roads to have 20mph (Table 1) or 30mph speed limits (Table 2)

Appendix C - Consultation objections and responses

**Appendix A – Location Plan and Consultation Document**



<p> <span style="color: green;">—</span> Proposed 20mph speed limit  <span style="color: blue;">—</span> Existing 30mph speed limit  <span style="color: red;">—</span> Proposed 30mph speed limit                 </p>		 Kent County Council Ashford Highway Depot Henwood Industrial Estate Ashford TN24 8AD Tel: 03000 418181	Project Westerham Town Centre Proposed 20mph and 30mph Speed Limits	This drawing is not to be used in whole or part other than for the intended purpose and project as defined on this drawing. Refer to the contract for full terms and conditions.												
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