

Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

9 January 2017



Schools 20 mph Part-Time Speed Limits Project - Update Report

Report of Lorraine O'Donnell, Director of Transformation and Partnerships

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide Members of the Committee with supporting information in advance of a presentation on progress of the Schools 20mph part-time speed limits project.

Background

2. In December 2014, Cabinet agreed to implement part-time speed limits at 33 schools with the highest accidents rates in County Durham and to develop a revised 20 mph policy statement. The project was funded by a Public Health Grant of £952,850. At this time, Cabinet also invited Overview and Scrutiny to provide oversight of their recommendations.
3. A 20mph limits Overview and Scrutiny working group, chaired by Cllr Boyes was established and between April 2015 and April 2016, Members proactively engaged with Officers and contributed to the development of a new 20 mph policy and commented on road safety education, consultation and engagement. Members also undertook field study activity at Etherley Lane Primary School to see this work in action.
4. A change in the approach for road signage resulted with a significant reduction in cost and with challenge from Members provided an opportunity for additional schools to be included within the project. Members also provided challenge to the existing criteria contributed to revised criteria for additional schools within available funding.
5. At its meeting in May 2016, Cabinet agreed a report '*Schools 20 mph Part-Time Speed Limits Project - Update and Scrutiny Review*' which agreed a new 20 mph policy and additional schools to be included within available funding using the revised criteria. The working group's report was also presented at this meeting and included the following recommendations:

That the Council's Safer and Stronger Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive progress reports on:

- a) *implementation of the 22 schemes with within Phases 2 and 3,*

- b) *engagement of local Members within development of Phase 2 and 3 Schemes within their wards;*
 - c) *outcomes of the evaluation of year 1 schemes by Durham University;*
and
 - d) *findings from surveys for identification of additional schools within available funding.*
6. Outcomes from the overview and scrutiny working group work were included within the Council's submission that won the Municipal Journal award for Governance and Scrutiny.
7. Appendix 2 contains a report titled '*Schools 20 mph Part-Time Speed Limits Project - Update Report*' was presented to Cabinet in December 2016. This report contains information on implementation on Phase 2 and 3 schemes and identification of additional schools within available funding.
8. John Reed, Head of Technical Services and Keith Jameson, Traffic Asset Manager, Regeneration and Local Services will be in attendance to provide a presentation to Members on the Cabinet report and engagement with local Members and the evaluation undertaken by Durham University.

Recommendation

- (i) Members of the Committee are asked to note information contained within the report and presentation and comment accordingly.

Background Papers

None

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – None

Staffing – None

Risk - None

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty – None

Accommodation - None

Crime and Disorder – None

Human Rights – None

Consultation – None

Procurement – None

Disability Issues – None

Legal Implications – None