

## **COUNTY COUNCIL**

**29 OCTOBER 2014**

### **QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR DJ SOUTHWELL, CHAIR OF BELMONT PARISH COUNCIL**

Other councils in the North East and elsewhere in the country, have implemented 20mph speed limits in appropriate areas which are enforceable. In these areas, residents who break the law have been cautioned by the Police and where appropriate speeding tickets issued. This council has also, in the past, seen the value to public safety of these limits. I took a request to the Highways Committee of the County Council (prior to the Unitary Council) for a 20 m.p.h. speed limit on part of High Grange Estate, Gilesgate Moor which was accepted by members who overturned the recommendations of the Officers and Police. Signage was installed, paid for by members allowances. At the time that the 20 m.p.h. speed limit was only advisory and not enforceable. That position has now changed.

Why has this council now fallen behind other councils? Could it not work with Parish and Town councils, seek sponsorship; use the High Grange estate as a pilot for a rolling programme of enforceable 20mph zones.

#### **Response**

I would like to thank Councillor Southwell for his question. In addition to the High Grange Estate 20mph limit, we have also successfully introduced 20mph zones at Cleves Cross in Ferryhill and North Terrace, Seaham. We are currently reviewing our policy on 20mph limits and a report will be presented to Cabinet in the near future.