MINUTES OF THE SCRUTINY REVIEW - 20 MPH SPEED LIMIT MONDAY, 4 OCTOBER 2010

Councillors: Bull (Chair), Newton and Weber

Apologies: Councillor Basu

LC1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Received from Councillor Basu.

LC2. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

LC3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

LC4. DRAFT SCOPE/TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Panel noted that the final report of the independent interim evaluation of the implementation of 20 mph speed limits in Portsmouth had been published and had reported an average reduction in mean speeds on all roads of 1.3 mph. Road casualties had reduced by 22%. This compared to a reduction in casualty figures of around 14% in comparable areas during the same period. The conclusion of the report was that early figures had suggested that the implementation of the 20 mph speed limit had been associated with reductions in road casualty numbers.

Members of the Panel requested specific information on the impact of lower speed levels on emissions.

The Panel requested that the terms of reference be amended as follows:

"To consider:

- the feasibility of the introduction of a default borough wide 20 mph speed limit for suitable residential streets and, in particular, whether reductions in traffic speeds and casualty figures are likely to be achieved without the need for physical calming measures and enforced by signage alone;
- whether a time limited pilot scheme in a suitable town centre location should be set up to test the potential effectiveness of such a scheme".

It was noted that Islington was also undertaking a scrutiny review on 20 mph speed limits. Contact had been made with relevant officers there and it was proposed that, where there were shared issues and agendas, possible collaboration be explored.

AGREED:

- 1. That the scope and terms of reference for the review, as amended, be approved and recommended to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 2. That future meetings of the Panel be scheduled as follows:

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- Monday 18 October at 10:00 a.m.
- Monday 15 November at 10:00 a.m.
- 6 Monday 13 December at 10:45
- Monday 17 January at 10:00 a.m.

LC5. 20 MPH SPEED LIMITS

It was noted that the officer from Urban Environment who had been scheduled to present to the Committee was unwell and therefore unable to attend. It was agreed that the presentation would be postponed and added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Cllr Gideon Bull Chair