

**Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, Executive Director for Environment and Economy**

Report to:	<b>Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>09 March 2015</b>
Subject:	<b>Speed Management in Lincolnshire Revised Speed Limit Policy</b>

**Summary:**

This report invites the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee to consider the draft revised Speed Limit Policy as part of the Speed Management in Lincolnshire Review. Subject to the agreement of the Committee, the report will be submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and IT for his consideration and approval.

**Actions Required:**

1. To approve, or to approve with amendment, the attached draft revised Speed Limit Policy as part of the Speed Management in Lincolnshire Review.
2. To agree that the revised policy should be submitted to the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transport and IT for his approval prior to public consultation.
3. To agree that a policy relating to School Safety Issues be considered at the next meeting, and that subsequently, it be consulted upon in conjunction with the draft Speed Limit Policy as part of the overall Speed Management Review.

**1. Background**

On 15 December 2014, the Highways and Transport Scrutiny Committee approved the Speed Management in Lincolnshire Scrutiny Review relating to Borderline Cases.

Councillors will recall that it was recommended to support a relaxation in the Borderline Cases to +/- 3 mph and that this be included in the new revised Speed Limit Policy.

This has now been included as part of the draft Policy, attached as Appendix A. The opportunity has been taken to review the format of the policy document along with other changes to bring it up to date and more user friendly.

The conclusion below provides a summary of the changes from the existing speed limit policy and Councillors are asked to review this and make any necessary comments.

## **2. Conclusion**

The summary below shows the proposed changes that have been made and the Committee is asked to consider each of these items and to agree or comment on them for inclusion into the final Policy prior to consideration by the Portfolio Holder for Highways, Transportation and IT and public consultation process.

- i) As previously agreed, the Borderline Case criteria has been relaxed to +/- 3mph with respect to Developed Areas.
- ii) In addition and for consistency, the opportunity has been taken to amend the rural section of the policy to include a relaxation of the Borderline Cases criteria also to +/- 3mph. To achieve this, the graph in the current policy has been replaced by a Mean Speed Table similar to that in the Developed section.
- iii) As a result of (ii) above and following investigations into Rural Accident sites as identified by the Task and Finish Group, a further discretionary element is proposed where engineering measures have not been successful in reducing the number of accidents at these sites. In these circumstances a further review will be conducted and a report will be submitted to Planning & Regulation Committee for consideration of a possible reduction of the existing speed limit by one level.
- iv) The opportunity has also been taken to re-format the policy document in an effort to make it more user friendly for officers and other interested parties. The phraseology has been updated and it has also been sub-divided into relevant sections dependant on the type of road under review and this has been done to make it easier to follow the assessment process. The document now includes a short Introduction and General Guidelines which assists officers in the implementation of speed limits.

It is intended to carry out the consultation of the revised Speed Limit Policy as part of the Speed Management Review and this Committee is asked to consider whether this should be done in conjunction with a new policy relating to School Safety Issues outside schools. As these two documents will form part of the Speed Management Review strategy for Lincolnshire it may be beneficial that these two documents are put out to public consultation at the same time.

In view of the above, and if agreed, a further report will be presented to the next meeting of this Committee outlining proposals for a policy on School Safety Issues for consideration.

### 3. Consultation

#### a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

Not applicable

### 4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Draft Revised Speed Limit Policy

### 5. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Report on Speed Management Borderline Cases - 15 December 2014	County Offices Newland Lincoln
Current Speed Limit Policy - July 2008	County Offices Newland Lincoln

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