

Nick Chard
Cabinet Member for Environment, Highways & Waste



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Dear Sir / Madam

I wanted to write personally to give you an update on the speed limit review project.

As you will be aware Local Authorities are required to make significant capital and revenue reductions through the comprehensive spending review set by Government. Some specific targeted saving have been set by Government already, this included Road Safety Capital and Resource grants. This recent withdrawal has regrettably led to the suspension of the speed limit review project, which had intended to review speed limits on A and B roads in Kent. This means speed limit changes will not be progressed on an area wide basis.

The A and B roads in the **demonstration area** have benefited from a very thorough examination of the speed limits and the input from the designated Parish Councils has been welcome in making the final recommendations, these speed limit changes have now implemented.

Following review in **Area 1** (Mid Kent) we requested comments from Parish Councils on these initial recommendations. A final report has been compiled to document the observations received and alterations have been made where these are deemed appropriate. A copy of this report in CD format will be available to the relevant Parish Councils for information. The recommendations contained in this report, will however not be taken forward to implementation due the aforementioned funding reductions.

In **Area 2** (East Kent) the relevant roads have been reviewed and initial recommendations made, these recommendations will not now be implemented and consequently we will not be seeking Parish Councils' views on these recommendations.

The review of **Area 3** (West Kent) has not been completed to an initial recommendations stage, requests for speed limit changes in West Kent will be assessed on an individual basis.

We still intend to utilise the work to date. The final recommendations for Area1 and the initial recommendations for Area 2 will act as a basis to respond to any request for speed limit changes.

All speed limit change requests will be handled through your local Kent Highways Service Transport and Development team, using the knowledge gained from the work already completed. These requests will be subject to the same processes and funding availability

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of other highway requests, but I do wish to assure you that safety remains a priority for the Highway Authority.

In cases where a speed limit is proposed which demonstrates a quantifiable injury crash saving, this will be treated as a crash remedial measure and funding bid will be made accordingly.

Finally I would like to thank you for your interest and contribution to the speed limit review. The knowledge gained from your input has been welcome and supplied a good basis for future speed management processes.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Chard".

Nick Chard