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Alison Mills

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26 October 2012

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Dear Mr Francis

Freedom of Information Request

In reply to your response dated 20 September 2012 regarding our letter to you on the following information request:

20 mph speed restrictions in Hampshire.

Below is the County Council's response to the new points that you have raised.

Firstly, the County Council would like to reassure you that the previous email sent to you was not a standard reply and was drafted in direct response to your individual enquiry.

You make a number of general comments and observations which have been noted but the following responses have been prepared in relation to your specific questions:-

Your email compares the proposed Residential 20 pilot project to the Portsmouth City Council (PCC) Citywide 20mph speed limit. The County Council are not in a position to comment on the details of the PCC scheme and do not feel that a direct comparison can be made as our approach to the residential 20mph pilots differs from the PCC approach. Hampshire County Council (HCC) is limiting the 20mph speed limits to defined residential areas where the majority of road users will either be the residents themselves or their visitors. HCC is intending to undertake a publicity campaign with the local residents, as we recognise that the scheme is only likely to be a success if drivers respect the limit. We are therefore intending to work with the community to ensure that they support the concept behind the project. The campaign will encourage residents to raise awareness and take ownership of the project. This is a clear difference to the

*Director of Economy, Transport and Environment
Stuart Jarvis BSc DipTP FCIHT MRTPI*

approach taken by PCC.

The County Council understands your concerns regarding the Community Speed Watch, however, this would only be used as a tool in areas where compliance of the new limit causes concern to the local residents. This is an initiative that is administered and supervised by the Police and therefore it is highly unlikely that the scenarios you mention would occur.

This initiative is being developed in response to many requests from residents for lower speed limits on their roads. Attached are links to two reports to the Executive Member for Environment and Transport which outlines the ethos of the project and outlines how it is intended to judge performance.

Report to the Executive Member for Environment and Transport - 3rd April 2012

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemsummary.htm?pref=Y&tab=1&item_ID=3730&cancel=n

Report to the Executive Member for Environment and Transport- 11th September 2012

http://www3.hants.gov.uk/councilmeetings/advsearchmeetings/meetingsitemsummary.htm?pref=Y&tab=1&item_ID=4210&cancel=n

Cost / benefit figures are not available for this project, however the financial details and measure of success are outlined in the reports.

For clarification, I would like to reiterate my previous point with regard to funding. The cost of introducing 20 mph limits in 10 varied residential areas across the County has been estimated to be in to the region of £250,000. A further £66,000 was agreed as a contingency, but may not be required. The additional £150,000 has been secured from the Department of Transport for future 20 mph limits in Winchester City and surrounding areas through the Central Government funded Local Sustainable Transport Fund and this funding is not forming part of the residential 20 pilot project.

The County Council do not hold any planning documents in relation to your request, as we are not supplying recorded information your request has been dealt with as business as usual.

I hope that this clarifies the situation.



PP

Alison Mills
Assistant Service Manager - Traffic Management (South)

The County Council has a procedure for dealing with complaints, including complaints about the handling of requests for information. A copy of the complaints procedure can be found at: <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/complaints>.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within 40 working days of receiving our response, and should be addressed to: Head of Information Compliance, Corporate Services, The Castle, Winchester, SO23 8UJ or emailed to foi@hants.gov.uk.

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF.