

From: "Kendal, Cllr M J" <mel.kendal@hants.gov.uk>
To: Idris Francis <idrisfrancis@fightbackwithfacts.com>,
Date: Thu, 20 Sep 2012 10:03:53 -0400
Subject: 20 mph restrictions in Hampshire

This response is sent from Councillor Melville Kendal, Executive Member for Environment and Transport, Hampshire County Council

Dear Mr Francis

20 mph restrictions in Hampshire

Thank you for your email of 8 September regarding the above matter.

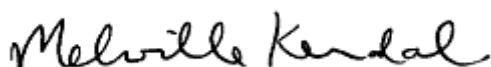
The forthcoming Residential 20 mph Pilot Project has been primarily developed in response to the many requests for 20 mph restrictions that my officers regularly receive from Hampshire residents, either directly or via the local County Councillor. The programme has also been prompted by recent relaxations to Department for Transport signing requirements for 20 mph restrictions which have enabled this type of speed limit to be introduced at lower costs than was previously possible. Whilst any reduction in traffic speed is likely to have a positive effect on road safety, this particular programme is more focused on helping to reduce the negative impact of motorised vehicles within residential areas such as noise and vibration together with the threat and intimidation caused by inappropriate driving that residents often refer to when they contact us.

I note your comments concerning 'unenforceable limits' but would add that we will be encouraging residents within the pilot scheme areas to take ownership for the new limits and this will be supported by a dedicated publicity campaign. Residents will also be made aware that speed enforcement in lightly trafficked residential streets is likely to be a low priority for Hampshire Police and therefore, should compliance with the new limits become an issue, they will be encouraged to set up Community Speed Watch groups in partnership with the Police.

To clarify your point on 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 £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.

Thank you for your interest in this matter and I trust that this information has helped to clarify the situation.

Yours sincerely



Councillor Melville Kendal
Executive Member for Environment and Transport