

QUESTION NO. 1

Mo McSevney to ask the Chair:

20 mile per hour zone in 'Old Redlands'

Redlands Labour is rightly proud to have introduced an area wide 20 mph zone in what is known as 'Old Redlands'. We are only too painfully aware that the speed limit is too often abused, probably by non-residents taking shortcuts. I am aware that the Council has recently allocated funds to address this issue. Can you please advise me what the council has already done and what the next steps are ?

REPLY by the Chair of the Traffic Management Sub-Committee.

I invite Councillor Page, the Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport to make the response on my behalf.

REPLY by Councillor Page, Lead Councillor for Strategic Environment, Planning and Transport:

I thank Ms McSevney for her question

I met recently with Thames Valley Police (TVP) where we had a helpful discussion on their policy on speed enforcement including the lower 20mph speed limit. I was joined by officers who are now tasked with bringing back their professional recommendations on 20mph supporting measures. These are expected to cover a range of traffic calming measures suited to the local areas. It is for officers to advise us on what is best for the area but there are a range of physical tools to encourage slower driven speeds such as the deployment of speed activated signs, road narrowing, speed cushions or humps, alongside the more complex issues of real-time enforcement which currently rests with TVP.

As Ms McSevney knows, councillors for Church, Katesgrove, Redlands, and Whitley have allocated up to £100k of localised CIL funds towards the better enforcement of 20 MPH zones and work on this has started. A report on the recently agreed localised CIL schemes is coming to the next SEPT Committee on 18th March.

It is Government policy that 20mph zones should be self-enforcing, with the inclusion of signing and traffic calming measures. Consequently, we now have nearly two years of experience to enable us to review any specific issues and officers are already looking to collect speed data across the area.

Once officers have gathered the facts, and had further discussions with local members, recommendations will be made to the Traffic Management Sub-Committee for consideration.