

		AGENDA ITEM 9
		PSEG/05/17 Addendum
Committee:	Place Services and Economic Growth Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	17 January 2017	
CALL IN OF DECISION - FP/687/12/16 PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT ON THE THREE ARCH AND EASTHAM ESTATE, BRENTWOOD		
Enquiries to:	Christine Sharland, Scrutiny Officer Tele no 03330134569 Christine.sharland@essex.gov.uk	

As set out in the original report PSEG/05/17, on 8 December 2016 Councillor David Kendall called in decision FP/687/12/16 proposed 20mph speed limit on the Three Arch and Eastham Estate, Brentwood.

In line with normal practice an informal meeting was held on 9 January 2017 when Councillor Kendall discussed his call in with Councillor Johnson, the Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport. As a result of that discussion Councillor Kendall withdrew his call in as Councillor Johnson revised his decision so that the proposal to make a traffic regulation Order to introduce a 20mph speed limit on the Three Arch and Eastham Estate, Brentwood, would be published for consultation. A note of that meeting is attached at the Annex to this report.

Action required by the Committee:

The Committee is asked to note this report.

Annex

Note of Informal meeting held on 9 January 2016 regarding the Call In of a Decision Proposed 20mph Speed Limit on the Three Arch and Eastham Estate, Brentwood Decision reference FP/687/12/16

in attendance:

Councillor David Kendall (Councillor responsible for calling the decision in)
Councillor Andy Wood, Vice Chairman of Place Services and Economic
Growth Scrutiny Committee
Councillor Eddie Johnson, Cabinet Member for Highways and Transport

Vicky Presland, Head of Design, Highways
Chloe Livingstone, Development Lead Officer within Design Services
Highways

Jess Hayes, Cabinet Advisor
Christine Sharland, Scrutiny Officer

Councillor Wood welcomed everyone to the informal meeting that had been set up for the consideration of proposed decision reference FP/687/12/16 namely to not implement a proposal for a 20 mph speed limit on the Three Arch and Eastham Estate, Brentwood as part of the County Council's Call In procedure.

Councillor Kendall was invited to explain his reasons for calling in the decision as set out in the Notification of Call dated 8 December 2016. In his introduction he described the Three Arch and Eastham Estate, and some accidents that had occurred involving overturned vehicles and damage to a bus shelter. The Local Highways Panel (LHP) had promoted the introduction of a 20mph speed limit across the estate to address local concerns. He confirmed that there was cross party support for the scheme locally.

One of the reasons given for the call in was his original belief that councillors had not been consulted formally on the proposal for a traffic regulation Order (TRO) to implement the speed limit. However, he now accepted that councillors had been consulted via email albeit they had overlooked it and unfortunately it had been worded in a way that suggested a response was only required if there was problem rather than it also being necessary to respond if you supported the proposal. Consequently the report recorded that there was 'no objection' rather than reflecting that there was in fact positive support.

Councillor Kendall acknowledged that speeds across the estate did not technically fit the criteria for a 20 mph speed limit and that the Police would not enforce a restriction. However, there was local support for it and there was a project to promote community speed awareness in Brentwood for which this estate would be used as a pilot.

Vick Presland confirmed that the LHP had given unanimous support for the implementation of the scheme, which did represent a departure from policy. The layout of the estate does create its own environment and present a situation where speed could be reduced. However, the introduction of a TRO to implement a speed limit would not be backed up by police enforcement or engineering measures.

Councillor Johnson referred to the fact that the survey had shown that average speed was already low, and sought clarification from Councillor Kendall on his case. While he noted the LHP's support, he also stressed that conformity with a speed limit would be down to the residents themselves. In this particular case he was minded to change his decision and agree to the scheme going forward based upon the particular circumstances at that location. However, such a speed limit would not work in many situations.

Councillor Johnson confirmed that moving forward he would initiate a review of the Council's policy and protocol for 20 mph speed limits.

He clarified that the next stage of the TRO process would be the formal publication of the proposal. In addition he proposed that there should be a letter drop across the Estates to point out that all drivers would be responsible for adherence to the speed limit once introduced. He also suggested that the draft letter be shared with Councillor Kendall before being sent out.

On the basis of the discussion and Councillor Johnson's stated intention to change his decision to authorise the publication of a speed restriction TRO, Councillor Kendall withdrew his call in.
