

Report of the Strategic Director of Regeneration and Culture to the meeting of the Bradford South Area Committee to be held on 13th December 2012

AK

Subject: Radar Speed Survey Equipment

Summary statement:

This report details a trial method of working with the Police to reduce speeds in areas of concern in the Bradford South Constituency Area.

It also requests the release of funding to purchase a radar survey unit.

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Portfolio:

Change Programme, Housing, Planning & Transport

Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Environment and Waste Management









Suzan Hemingway, City Solicitor

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report details a trial method of working with the Police to reduce speeds in areas of concern in the Bradford South Constituency Area.
- 1.2 It also requests the release of funding to purchase a radar survey unit.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2010 the Bradford South Area Traffic team purchased a radar survey box capable of carrying out vehicle counts and recording associated vehicle speeds.
- 2.2 This piece of equipment, operating autonomously, has proved invaluable in gathering information to enable informed responses to requests and queries from members of the public and elected members alike with regard to speed and traffic volume issues.
- 2.3 In November 2012 the survey unit was vandalised and destroyed while on site in the Holme Wood area.
- 2.4 A replacement unit is now needed in order to ensure that the Area Traffic Team is able to continue to monitor the network and respond appropriately.
- 2.4 The Traffic and Highways Team has recently been approached by the NPT Inspector for Queensbury, Royds and Wibsey with regard to identifying and prioritising sites across the constituency area where public perception of speed was a concern.
- 2.5 The NPT Team wish to purchase their own Speed Indicator Device (SID) which displays vehicle speed in real time to drivers as they pass a funding request to assist in the purchase of this device from ward monies forms part of a separate report bought to this Area Committee from the Strategic Director of Environment and Sport.
- 2.6 It is intended to man the deployment of the SID device in order to either enforce or to educate drivers with regard to speed related offences observed by their officers on site.
- 2.7 The possibility of joint operations between the Police and the Area Traffic Team has been discussed, and a method of working has been proposed that will benefit both parties. This proposal is included in Appendix 1

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 There are no further considerations with regard to this matter.

4. OPTIONS

4.1 The Area Committee can decide to approve the recommendations as detailed in this report, or amend them, or suggest alternative recommendations.

5. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 5.1 The cost of a replacement radar survey unit is £1307.
- 5.2 The current contingencies sum held in the Area Committee Traffic Measures budget as reported to this committee in November 2012 is £5000.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

6.1 There are no significant risks arising out of the implementation of the proposed recommendations.

7. LEGAL APPRAISAL

- 7.1 There are no specific legal issues arising from this report.
- 7.2 All works undertaken will be carried out within the requirements of the Highways Act 1980

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

8.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

8.1.1 There are no Equality & Diversity issues arising from this report.

8.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

8.2.1 There are no significant sustainability implications to this report.

8.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

8.3.1 There is no greenhouse gas emission implication to this report.

8.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

8.4.1 Reduced vehicle speeds significantly affect community perceptions in relation to road safety.

8.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

8.5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from this matter

8.6 TRADE UNION

8.6.1 There are no trade union implications arising from this report

8.7 WARD IMPLICATIONS

8.7.1 A reduction in speed on a particular road will make that part of the ward safer for vulnerable road users.

8.8 AREA COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN IMPLICATIONS

8.8.1 The development and implementation of schemes included in this report support priorities within the Bradford South Area Committee Action Plan 2011-14.

9. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

9.1 Copy of full petition and petitioners presentations (to be circulated at the meeting)

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 10.1 That the Area Committee approves the joint working method outlined in Appendix 1.
- 10.2 That the Area Committee approves the funding of a replacement radar survey unit for the Traffic and Highways team from Area Traffic Measures budget.
- 10.3 That a further report on the progress of the joint operation be bought to the Area Committee in September 2013.

11. APPENDICES

11.1 Appendix 1 - Radar Surveys - Joint Operations Plan

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

12.1 None

Appendix 1 - Radar Surveys - Joint Operations Plan

The following method of operation has been proposed – initially as a trial in the Royds, Wibsey and Queensbury Wards, but also spreading to the other constituency wards and NPT area's as and when Police resources are available;

- Radar Surveys are to be undertaken in response to complaints received by Traffic and Highways or via Police priorities highlighted through public feedback.
- The Traffic and Highways radar survey unit will be deployed on site to gather information on speeds and traffic volumes in relation to such complaints.
- Verifiable problems will he highlighted to the Police for further action, either by enforcement or education, utilising the deployed Speed Indicator Device, accompanied by Officers on site.
- Information will be gathered from the police regarding the number of enforcement or education actions undertaken.
- Sites will be monitored over time to determine the success of the actions.
- This information will be used to determine the need for further intervention measures as part of the area traffic measures plan.
- A report on the actions undertaken will be bought to Area Committee on a bi-annual basis to inform members of the progress of the plan.