

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 28 FEBRUARY 2017

REVIEW OF TWENTY'S PLENTY SPEED LIMITS – DUKE STREET, BRECHIN

REPORT BY IAN COCHRANE, HEAD OF TECHNICAL & PROPERTY SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report advises the committee with regards to the results of the public consultation in connection with the proposed introduction of physical speed reducing measures in Duke Street, Brechin.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the responses to the public consultation which has been received in regards to the proposed physical traffic calming measures in Duke Street, Brechin.
- (ii) notes the range of opinions expressed by those who have responded to the consultation;
- (iii) instructs the Head of Technical and Property Services to proceed with the implementation of the works described for Duke Street, Brechin

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS COMMUNITY PLAN/SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT/CORPORATE PLAN

This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Community Plan and Single Outcome Agreement 2013-2016:

- Angus is a good place to live in, work in and visit,
- Our communities are safe, secure and vibrant

3. BACKGROUND

Advisory 20mph limits (Twenty's Plenty) were introduced throughout Angus in specific areas with low accident history and relatively low traffic speeds. These areas were monitored and the outcomes reported to Committee in Report No. 43/11 which gave details of traffic speed checks in all the Twenty's Plenty areas in Angus (51 in total).

Report 43/11 informed Committee that there was no justification on a cost/benefit basis to introduce physical traffic calming measures to convert all the advisory 20mph speed limits to mandatory self-enforcing 20mph zones. However Duke Street, Brechin was included in eight Twenty's Plenty areas identified where the 85th percentile speed (the speed at or below which 85% of vehicles are travelling) was above the desirable threshold for 20mph limits, being equal to or in excess of 30mph. The speed survey for Duke Street, Brechin showed an average speed of 28mph and an 85th percentile speed of 34mph. The Infrastructure Services Committee instructed the Head of Roads to investigate this area and consider the introduction of physical measures to reduce speeds to an appropriate level.

Infrastructure Services Committee Report No. 43/12 set out recommendations for physical measures at eight Twenty's Plenty areas previously identified where speeds were found to be above the desirable threshold. It was recommended to install road humps or speed cushions in these areas, subject to the outcome of consultation.

Committee also agreed that the consultation for the installation of physical traffic calming measures in Duke Street, Brechin should be postponed until the completion of the new Brechin Community Campus.

4. CURRENT POSITION

The consultation has now taken place. Under the Road Humps (Scotland) Regulations 1998 the Council must consult on proposals to install road humps with organisations representing road users, the local community and residents fronting the section of road where it is proposed to install road humps.

Accordingly letters were sent to the local members, the Community Council, the police and other emergency services, the Head of Schools and Learning, the Transport Manager and Service Managers at Planning and Housing. Site notices were posted on lighting columns in the area; the proposals were made available at the local ACCESS office and were published on the council's website. These comprise the statutory notifications under the Regulations.

Frontagers on Duke Street and Double Dykes, Brechin received a letter similar to the specimen item shown in **Appendix 1**.

Roads Business Unit delivered 63 letters to residents asking their view on the proposed measures shown in the plan provided (**Appendix 2**). In total 24 replies were received (38% response) with 15 in favour (63%) and 9 against (38%).

The comments received from residents are shown in **Appendix 3**.

The Support Service Manager for the school, the Head Teacher for the school and the Manager of the Angus Alive facility have all intimated their support for the installation of the speed cushions on Duke Street.

The proposed speed cushions would be laid at a height of 75mm. The maximum height of a speed cushion/hump allowed under the Road Humps (Scotland) Regulations is 100mm. 75mm high speed cushions have worked well elsewhere in Angus without causing damage to vehicles.

5. PROPOSAL

Section 37 of the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984 requires the Roads Authority to consider any objections sent to them pursuant to the notification process and if they think fit cause a local inquiry to be held.

Given that 63% of returned consultation forms are in favour of the introduction of the speed cushions, the Head of Technical & Property Services recommends that the proposed physical traffic calming measures be put in place, and the scheme implemented without recourse to a Public Inquiry.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The installation of the traffic calming measures on Duke Street, Brechin is estimated to cost approximately £21,000 which can be funded from the Road Safety/Traffic Calming provision within the 2017/18 Roads (Traffic) Capital Budget.

7. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Strategic Director of Resources, Head of Corporate Improvement & Finance, Head of Legal & Democratic Services, Scottish Fire & Rescue Services Area Manager and the local Divisional Police Commander for Tayside have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

8. CONCLUSION

This report details the result of the responses received to the public consultation regarding the proposed physical traffic calming installation on Duke Street, Brechin.

The Committee is asked to note the mixture of views received in response to the consultation on the proposed traffic calming installation.

On balance it is recommended that the Committee agrees to proceed with the installation of physical traffic calming measures at this location.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

- Report No. 43/11: Review of Twenty's Plenty Speed Limits – Infrastructure Services Committee 18 January 2011
- Report 43/12: Review of Twenty's Plenty Speed Limits – Infrastructure Services Committee 17 January 2012

REPORT AUTHOR: Ian Cochrane, Head of Technical and Property Services

EMAIL DETAILS: CommunitiesBusinessSupport@angus.gov.uk

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Residents Consultation Letter

Appendix 2 - Consultation General Layout Plan

Appendix 3 - Comments received regarding the installation of the proposed physical traffic calming measures on Duke Street, Brechin