

Weybridge Society



20mph Speed Limits in Residential Areas

Dave Arnold
Transport Panel
January 2010

Objective

To persuade Surrey County Council to introduce a 20 mph restriction in all residential areas within Weybridge to increase safety of residents and improve the living environment

Why 20 mph?

Four key reasons

1. A reduction from 30 to 20 mph significantly reduces death and serious injury
2. To encourage walking & cycling through the provision of a safer environment
3. To improve traffic flows and reduce emissions
4. To assist in meeting the objectives of Elmbridge's 2026 Core Strategy

Why 20 mph?

RESULT

An enhanced & safer living environment for
Weybridge residents

Residential Area Speed Limits

The basics

[1] Speed kills!

The likelihood of a pedestrian being killed when hit by a car is

- 90 per cent hit at 40mph
- 20 per cent hit at 30mph
- 3 per cent hit at 20mph

Facts: Speed, Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, 2009

[2] 20mph limits reduce speed

...self enforcing 20 mph zones are effective, (giving) an average reduction of 9 mph.

Webster D, Layfield R. Review of 20 mph zones in London boroughs. Transport for London, 2003 (project report PPR243).

Lower speed limits save lives!

20 mph saves lives & reduces injuries

Evidence London's 20 mph zones have produced

- a 50% reduction of children killed or seriously injured (KSI) and a 61% reduction in car occupant KSI.
- a 42 per cent reduction in casualties

Benefits of introducing 20 mph

- Reduction in use of local accident & emergency assets
- Healthier residents through less use of the car
- A friendlier environment for the disabled & ageing population
- Enhancing Weybridge's reputation for being one of the best places to live in the UK

20 mph saves social costs

- The estimated benefit to London from casualty reductions in its 400 existing 20mph zones has a value of at least £20 million per year
- Pro rata for Weybridge the savings would be ~£50 to £100k

Encouraging cycling & walking

- Research from the Department for Transport indicates that a cut in speed to 20mph has a dramatic impact in making areas more friendly to cyclists and pedestrians as a result local residents are more willing to walk & cycle
- Example Hull introduced 20 mph zones & cycling increased 6 fold

Improved traffic flow & reduced emissions

- Evidence suggests that 20mph limits have a positive impact on emissions because they improve traffic flow. This is because drivers travel at a more constant speed: they accelerate and decelerate less frequently, and spend less time stationary, using less fuel

Other 20 mph initiatives

The number of major local authorities with 20 mph restrictions is gaining momentum- they include

Portsmouth

8 London Boroughs

Oxford

Bristol (2010)

Norwich

Warrington(2010)

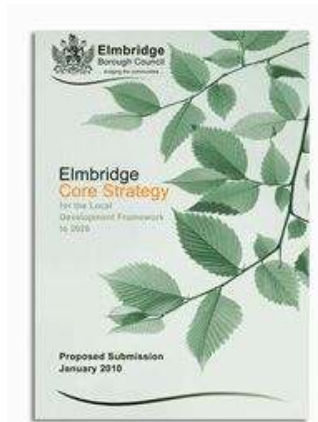
Leicester

Newcastle-upon-Tyne

Surrey County Council Initiatives



- Drive Smart a £1M 1 year initiative started 9/09 jointly by Surrey County Council & Police
- Aimed at increasing road safety and reducing anti-social driving
- 20 mph limits are in alignment with Core Strategy & Design Standards to enhance the living environment of its residents



Implementation- two options

- Zone



- Limit



Sign - limit



Calming



Road Markings

Costs Effectiveness

- Figures from Transport For London state that introduction of 20 mph restrictions is self-funding overall
- Problem is authority making the investment doesn't benefit from the savings

Proposal

Surrey County Council implement throughout Weybridge a 20 mph default speed limit (other than for A roads and selected B through and feeder roads*), *properly advertised, publicised, signed and road marked.*

* The excluded roads would be A317 (Balfour Road to Queens Rd), A3050 (Oatlands Drive), A245 (Byfleet Road), B374 (Heath Road to Brooklands Road), B373 (Hanger Hill) and B365 (Seven Hills Road).

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The Message

The introduction of 20 mph restrictions to residential areas within Weybridge will reduce accidents and reduce car usage. It will encourage walking, cycling and use of public transport. This will enhance the health and environment of residents and contribute to maintaining Weybridge's position as providing the best quality of life within the UK.

Strategy

- Gain support of Weybridge residents for the comprehensive introduction of 20 mph limits;
- Maximise publicity for Community Speedwatch;
- Generate proposals for presentation to SCC;
- Liaise with other interested parties (emergency services, schools, businesses, cyclists etc) to gain their support and ensure an acceptable solution;
- Work with local councillors (Elmbridge and SCC) to get them fully “on-board”; recognise current lack of funding in any proposed solution;
- Ensure a “joined-up” approach with other incentives.