

To: Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board
By: Tim Read – Head of Transportation, Kent County Council
Date: 7th December 2021
Subject: Brasted and Sundridge Temporary Average Speed Camera trial
Classification: Unrestricted Information Item

Summary

KCC are introducing a trial of average speed cameras along Main Road (A25) through the villages of Brasted and part of Sundridge (west of junction with Church Road/Chevening Road) starting February 2022 for a period of 4 months after which an additional 2 sites within Kent will be chosen to continue the trial (likely to be A252 in Ashford and A290 in Canterbury).

1.0 Background

- 1.1 A temporary average speed camera trial is proposed for the 2 villages of Brasted and Sundridge with Ide Hill following reports of speeding and aggressive driving on A25 for many years. The A25 is also used by all types of traffic when incidents or maintenance occurs on the M25 which causes a significant increase in congestion, noise and damage to the road infrastructure. This trial follows attempts to reduce speeding by other methods such as traffic calming through Brasted Village.
- 1.2 This trial is being promoted and supported by Brasted and Sundridge with Ide Hill Parishes along with Nick Chard, KCC elected Member for the area. It is proposed to take place for a period of 4 months and accompanies the automatic speed watch camera trial that is also taking place in Brasted (this trial is looking at how an automated camera operates compared to a manned speedwatch site). The trial will compliment the traffic calming measures implemented in Brasted.
- 1.3 The trial extents have been chosen to cover Brasted Village and as much of Sundridge Village as possible without including the traffic signals at the junction of the A25 with Church Road/Chevening Road and east towards the A21 as this junction would affect the average speeds. It is recognised that the east part of Main Road, Sundridge will not be covered by the trial and that in this location speed limit compliance is poor however this would require an additional 2 cameras. Unfortunately, the available funding does not allow for the inclusion of additional cameras, electrical supplies, and advance signing. With any trial it is necessary to manage the resources available and the overall considerations have to be balanced out with the finite budget and scope limitations.
- 1.4 The trial will include 2 cameras, one located at the start of the residential area west of Brasted and one west of The White Horse Public House car park in Sundridge. Signing of the cameras will also be necessary on the lead up to their locations - see **Appendix A** – Extent of trial area and camera locations. Each camera will detect speeds in both directions and will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There will

be infrared lights to allow night-time operation. The infrared light is not visible so there will be no additional light pollution.

- 1.5 To understand the effects of the trial on this location, before and after speed surveys will be undertaken and KCC we will be conducting an extensive evaluation programme including residents' surveys to consider perceptions too. We will distribute a questionnaire to understand existing views and attitudes prior to the cameras being installed and will then follow up with another questionnaire on completion of the trial.
- 1.6 Residents and businesses are encouraged to access and complete the questionnaire which is hosted by Kent County Council on the link below:

www.kent.gov.uk/A25.
- 1.7 The initial questionnaire survey is available now and will be open until 16 January 2022 with the cameras intending to be operational from February 2022.
- 1.8 It should be noted that this is a trial and the success or not of the average speed cameras will not necessarily mean that they will become permanent fixtures in this location.
- 1.9 The trial is being fully funded from KCC's Local Transport Plan allocation 2021-22.

2.0 Conclusion

- 2.1 This report is for information only.

Contact Officers: Jamie Watson, Programme Manager

The contact officers providing the update can be contacted on **03000 418181**

Appendix A - Extent of trial area and camera locations.