To:	Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board
By:	KCC Highways, Transportation & Waste
Date:	7th December 2021
Subject:	Response to request for 20 mph speed limit in central Sevenoaks
Classification:	Information Only

Summary: KCC have carried out an initial feasibility which indicates that a reduced speed limit may be suitable, however further investigations are required.

Update

An initial assessment in terms of feasibility and suitability has been made of the petitioner's request for a 20 mph speed limit in central Sevenoaks. This assessment has found that a 20 mph speed limit may be suitable, however further investigations are required.

The findings indicate that the roads proposed by the petitioner to be included in a 20 mph limit can be broadly divided into three main categories:

1. Where current average speeds are 24 mph or below;
2. Where current average speeds are between 24 – 28 mph and;
3. Where current average speeds are above 28 mph

Where speeds are 24 mph and below, we can look to introduce a 20 mph speed limit using signing and road markings only. Where speeds are between 24 – 28 mph, we will need to assess whether additional lighter touch / 'psychological' traffic calming measures may be needed to help ensure that a new reduced speed limit is in the main self-enforcing. Any sections where the average speeds are above 28 mph are likely to require traditional physical traffic calming features.

We are still awaiting the findings of studies into the area wide 20 mph speed limits in Tonbridge and Faversham which will help inform our approach going forward on a countywide level. We do not currently have a dedicated budget for new 20 mph speed limits, so the next stage of investigations will involve producing a schedule of costs to be met before any outline design on suitable measures can be undertaken.

Conclusion

This report is for Members' information.

Contact Officers: Whitney Gwillim, Schemes Project Manager

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