Request by Member for Scrutiny Review 2015/16 Work Programme



Please complete the form below to request consideration of your issue by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Request	
1 st September 2015	

Summary of Issue you wish to be scrutinised:

To assess, whether, in principle, we think that Epping Forest moving to a default 20mph signed limit. Exceptions of higher speed roads would be determined by the Traffic Authority. That a pilot scheme be employed in a reasonably wide area. Slower built up area speed limits have many Public Health benefits. Scrutiny can invite a few expert speakers, (including the 20's Plenty for Us organisation) on the issue to get an overview. If accepted after scrutiny then write to Essex County Council making representations that we wish to go 20mph limited with the suggested pilot scheme.

NOTE: ENTRIES BELOW RELATE TO ISSUE CATEGORIES OF THE PICK PROCESS. PLEASE REFER TO THE EXPLANATORY NOTES TO THIS FORM FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Public Interest Justification:

Epping Forest has a role to play on Public Health issues. 20 mph limits has been proven to encourage people to walk more, children to play outside more and increases use of bikes. It reduces isolation as people feel more confident in crossing roads. It helps vulnerable people to feel less vulnerable. For older people there is 10 times less risk of death (47% at 30mph to 5% at 20mph)/ It can also reduce the number of crashes and casualties. Casualties fall by about 20%. Other authorities have found the costs of implementation are around £3 per head. As a Council we are keen to encourage healthier and fitter individuals. This in turn will reduce costs and pressures on the NHS and thus local hospitals.

Impact on the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area

20mph limits increase exercise levels according to a report by Public Health England and the Local Government Association 'Obesity & the environment: increasing & physical activity & active travel.' As a Council we are keen to encourage healthier and fitter individuals. This in turn will reduce costs and pressures on the NHS and thus local hospitals. Limiting to 20mph reduces pollution as there is less wasted acceleration from 20-30mph in built up areas, people will drive cars less and walk and use other forms of sustainable transport more.

Council Performance in this area (if known: Red, Amber, Green): N/A as
implementation is an Essex Highways function but we can have an influence if we
chose to support this for residents.

Keep in Context (are other reviews taking place in this area?) None.
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Office Use:		
Pick score:	Considered By OSCC:	