

BRAMHALL LANE TRAFFIC UPDATEReport of the Head of Highways and Transportation**1. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.1 Councillors have requested a report regarding traffic and speed of vehicles on Bramhall Lane. This report seeks to provide an update on actions to assess the level of speeding through the shopping area; an update on the installation of the planned Speed Indicator Device (SID), and a proposed approach to developing an active neighbourhood scheme in the area.

2. ASSESSMENT OF SPEEDING AND ROAD SAFETY

2.1 Following concerns raised about speeding on Bramhall Lane, officers completed a hand-held radar speed survey on the 24th February 2021 between 9 and 10am in light rain conditions. 100 vehicles were surveyed in each direction.

	85%ile speed	Average speed
Northbound	33mph	29.5mph
Southbound	32.9mph	30mph

2.2 The 85%ile is a figure used to gauge if speed is a problem when investigating sites against the existing limit in this case 30mph. Effectively out of a notional 100 vehicles with 1 being the slowest and 100 being the fastest it's the speed of the 85th vehicle so 85% of all vehicles surveyed are traveling slower than the 85%ile speed, 15% are traveling faster.

2.3 In view of the above there is no indication of a particular problem with overall vehicle speed at this time / location and in the current conditions.

2.4 A further speed survey has been organised for near the junction between Bramhall Lane and Peel Street which will be undertaken in April.

2.5 In addition to the speed survey, officers have also reviewed recent road safety data for the area. This identified 3 KSI (Killed or seriously injured) incidents in the last 12 month period. The Road Safety Team have advised that there are no similarities between the incidents that could be addressed by engineering measures.

2.6 Data over the last 3 years has also been reviewed, with a further 2 slight casualty incidents identified. In neither event was speeding recorded as a contributory factor.

2.7 Generally speaking, road traffic incidents are rare and random events and are difficult to fully understand how they occur sometimes grouped in an area over a short period of time. Where there are common contributory factors the Council can look to introduce engineering measure to address an identifiable problem – however this is not deemed to be the case at this location.

3.0 SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

3.1 The SIDS have been repaired by the makers at their expense and returned to the Council. One has been tested on site and worked satisfactorily including data download. Members will be contacted to determine locations where they wish SIDS to be located.

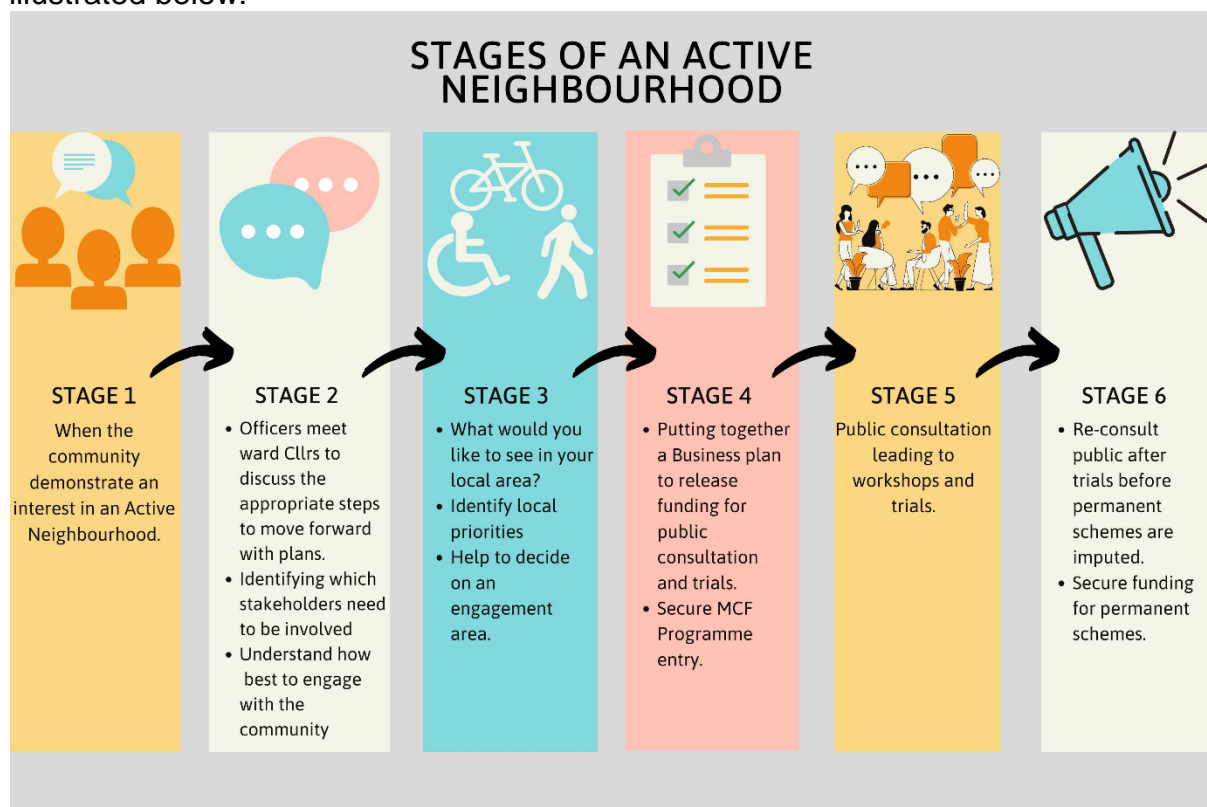
4.0 ACTIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS

4.1 The Council is currently working on a programme of active neighbourhood schemes across the borough and has recently brought in additional officer resource to support this programme of activity. An active neighbourhood is a scheme which aims to enable residents to make short trips on foot, by cycle or by public transport, instead of using their cars. Active neighbourhoods also seek to make our roads a safer place for all users and deliver benefits for everyone through an improved local environment, improved air quality and improved safety. This can be achieved through measures such as new crossings, traffic calming measures, introduction of temporary play street closures, and introduction of measures around schools to improve road safety. Crucially, active neighbourhoods are developed by the local community to respond to particular local challenges or aspirations.

4.2 The Council's first wave of active neighbourhood schemes in the Heaton and Romiley are due to start on-street trials in the summer. Further schemes in Cheadle Heath, Marple South and High Lane, and Hazel Grove are at varying stages of development.

4.3 Officers have recently reached out to a number of interested stakeholders in the Cale Green and Davenport area to hold initial discussions around the potential to explore an active neighbourhood scheme in the area. Whilst funding for delivery would need to be secured, the Council is committed to working with all local communities to explore options for active neighbourhoods in their area.

4.4 The indicative stages involved in developing an active neighbourhood scheme are illustrated below:



5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 The committee are recommended to:

- Note the update provided regarding the recent speed surveys
- Note the update provided regarding the SID
- Note the proposed approach to exploring an active neighbourhood in the area and meet with officers to provide support in identifying local stakeholders and interested parties for involvement in initial scoping discussions

BACKGROUND PAPERS

There are none

Anyone wishing to inspect the above background papers or requiring further information should contact Sue Stevenson on telephone number 0161 474 4351 or alternatively email sue.stevenson@stockport.gov.uk