

Subject:Highways England response - Updates

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From:South West Enquiries <SouthwestEnquiries@highwaysengland.co.uk>

To:chideock@dorset-aptc.gov.uk <chideock@dorset-aptc.gov.uk>

Our Ref: 12101456

Dear Ms Robinson

Thank you for email to Andy Roberts dated 16 July 2019 regarding updates before the Parish Council meeting on 30 July.

In overview, preparation for the start of the trial is progressing well. The Temporary Traffic Regulation Order is in process and is expected to be enforceable, once new speed limit signs are erected, for the commencement of the trial in mid-August. The detailed design of scheme is in hand but not yet complete, so some of the questions cannot be answered at this point in time. The initial runs of the smog van to collect the air quality data 'before change to speed limits' is set to commence during week beginning 29 July, but this is weather dependant. We are currently likely to commence the speed reduction itself on Monday 19th August, being a week later than initially thought, but still in the summer peak. This is to provide some additional time to; allow for bad weather in week commencing 29 July ; to respond to any last minute construction issues; and analysis of the initial smog van run.

In common with all our research projects we will include a 'break point' into the trial speed reduction scheme. This allows for evaluation of the initial data, following the first smog van run, before proceeding to the next stage being scheme implementation. We do this as we are under a duty to consider use of public funds.

1. Update on the proposed timescales for the implementation of the 30 mph pilot due to be introduced on the 12th August 2019.

[The trail is likely to commence Mon 19th August. See above](#)

2. Details of the how, the when and the where ?

[The scheme is currently being designed so we are not able to confirm these details at this time. Broadly the scheme will reduce the existing 40mph extents to 30mph and the existing national speed limit between Morcombelake and Chideock to 50mph.](#)

3. Communication - how will HE inform the local public and businesses, holiday traffic and Road Haulage association ?

[There is a draft Communications Plan, this provides for a letter drop to all addresses in Chideock and informs the Parish and Dorset Council. We are meeting the RHA/FTA separately and will inform them.](#)

4. If vehicles become stuck on the hill (as they did the other day), what support will they receive?

The scheme will not change the current situation and this problem will be dealt with in the same way as it currently is.

5. Will signage be put in place at an early point, for example Monkeys Jump roundabout, warning HGVs that there is a new speed limit on Chideock Hill ?

There are no plans to put advance signing up, as this is a temporary trial.

6. Ditto on the overhead gantries on the M27/ A27 - will this new information be highlighted for heavier or towing vehicles (of caravans and boats)?

There are no requirement or plans to do provide advance signing of this nature.

7. Will local radio be informed ?

Highways England will make use of social media to inform wider audiences.

8. How long will the 30 mph limit be in place ?

The maximum period is 18 months and a view will be taken in how long to run the scheme when results of monitoring are known.

Councillors are concerned that, as this is due to commence in August, we cannot support HE or inform local residents unless we know what is going to happen. Equally, if there is no dissemination of information to the wider travelling public / haulage companies etc., to help them understand what is going on and why, there could be chaos.

The Parish Council will be informed once the scheme is designed and planning for its delivery is completed, and as you will appreciate this work is in hand and not yet completed. The Communications plan includes the provision of information to the Parish Council ahead of commencement of the scheme, along with the Council and MPs.

We hope this helps with your enquiry. If you require any further information please contact our Customer Contact Centre on 0300 123 5000 or info@highwaysengland.co.uk, or visit our website at www.highwaysengland.co.uk

Kind regards

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