

Statement of Reasons

Proposed Speed Limit Reduction on Chapel Lane, Westhumble

It is proposed to reduce the existing 60mph/derestricted speed limit to a 30mph speed limit on the following section of the D2530 Chapel Lane, Westhumble

From the junction with the D2530 Chapel Lane, Bookham and the existing 30mph terminal speed limit sign at a point approximately 110m west of the junction with the D2800 Adlers Lane, Westhumble. A distance of approximately 1,800m

1. The section of Chapel Lane, Westhumble described above is classed as a derestricted road under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
2. The member for the Dorking Hill Electoral Division of Surrey County Council has raised concerns about the existing 60mph/derestricted speed limit on Chapel Lane, Westhumble and has requested that the speed limit is reduced.
3. A speed survey was carried out in Chapel Lane and the results of the speed survey complied with our policy "Setting Local Speed Limits" for a signs alone speed limit reduction to 30mph. The Police do not object to the proposal to reduce the speed limit on Chapel Lane to 30mph.
4. The Highway Operation & Commissioning Manager, under delegated authority, has agreed that the speed limit on this section of Chapel Lane should be reduced from 60mph/derestricted to 30mph.
5. Guidance from the Department for Transport emphasises that research into signed alone reductions in speed limits does lead to small reductions in traffic speeds. Therefore, signed alone speed limit reductions are most appropriate where measured traffic speeds are close to the proposed speed limits. The measured speeds on Chapel Lane are close to the proposed speed limit of 30mph. Research has shown that if average speeds fall by 1mph then the collision rate will fall by approximately 5%.
6. It is proposed to reduce the speed limit on the section of Chapel Lane listed above from 60mph/derestricted to 30mph in order to reduce both traffic speeds and reduce the number of collisions.