
Meeting	Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date	11 March 2013
Subject	20 MPH Zones Task and Finish Group – Final Report
Report of	Scrutiny Office
Summary of Report	The report at Appendix A presents the findings of the 20 MPH Zones Task and Finish Group following their review of the Council's approach to 20 MPH speed limits and other approaches nationally. The Committee is requested to consider the findings and recommendations of the Task and finish Group as set out in the report and endorse the report for onward referral to Cabinet.

Officer Contributors	Ed Gilbert, Assurance Officer
Status (public or exempt)	Public
Wards Affected	All
Key Decision	N/A
Reason for urgency / exemption from call-in	N/A
Function of	Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Enclosures	Appendix A – Report of the 20 MPH Zones Task and Finish Group
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1. RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 That the Committee note and consider the findings and recommendations of the 20 MPH Zones Task and Finish Group, as set out in the report attached at Appendix A.**
- 1.2 That the Committee endorse the findings and recommendations set out in the report for onward referral to the next Cabinet meeting.**

2. RELEVANT PREVIOUS DECISIONS

- 2.1 Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee, 7 October 2013, [Item 10 - Task and Finish Group Updates](#) – the Committee resolved that a Task and Finish Group review of 20 MPH Zones be convened to complete by the end of March 2014.

3. CORPORATE PRIORITIES AND POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The Overview and Scrutiny Committees, Panels and Task and Finish Groups must ensure that the work of Scrutiny is reflective of the Council's priorities.
- 3.2 The three key priorities set out in the 2013-16 Corporate Plan are: –
 - Supporting families and individuals that need it – promoting independence, learning and wellbeing
 - Improving the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study
 - Promoting responsible growth, development and success across the borough.
- 3.3 In relation to the 20 MPH Zones Task and Finish Group, the 2013 – 2016 Corporate Plan has a strategic objective to 'Improve the satisfaction of residents and businesses with the London Borough of Barnet as a place to live, work and study' and an outcome 'To maintain a well-designed, attractive and accessible place, with sustainable infrastructure across the borough.'
- 3.4 The implementation of 20 MPH zones is expected to make areas around schools safer resulting in a decrease the number of parents taking their children to schools via cars and an increase in the number of children walking to school. This supports the target in the Public Health Outcomes Framework to reduce obesity in primary school age children (PHOF indicators 2.6i and 2.6ii). In addition, the Public Health Outcomes Framework has a target to reduce the number of killed or seriously injured casualties on England's roads (PHOF indicator 1.10); the implementation of 20 mph zones would support delivery of this target locally.
- 3.5 The Health and Well-Being Strategy 2011 – 2105 under the objective of 'Preparing for a Health Life', aims to reduce obesity in children and young people by working with schools, community groups and parents to promote healthy eating and increase the use of active and sustainable school travel plans and the range of organised physical activities available. Delivering 20

mph zones around schools is expected to contribute towards delivery this objective.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 Failure to address issues of public concern through the overview and scrutiny process may result in reputational damage to the Council.

5. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 5.1 Pursuant to the Equality Act 2010 (“the Act”), the council has a legislative duty to have ‘due regard’ to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act; advancing equality of opportunity between those with a protected characteristic and those without; and promoting good relations between those with protected characteristics and those without. The ‘protected characteristics’ are age, race, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy, and maternity, religion or belief and sexual orientation. The ‘protected characteristics’ also include marriage and civil partnership, with regard to eliminating discrimination.
- 5.2 In addition to the Terms of Reference of the Committee, and in so far as relating to matters within its remit, the responsibility of the Committee is to perform the Overview and Scrutiny role in relation to:
- The Council’s leadership role with respect to diversity and inclusiveness; and,
 - The fulfilment of the Council’s duties as employer including recruitment and retention, personnel, pensions and payroll services, services, staff development, equalities and health and safety.
- 5.3 Task and Finish Groups will need to take into account equalities considerations throughout the lifecycle of the review and through the on-going monitoring, via the Scrutiny Office, by implementation of accepted recommendations.

6. USE OF RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (Finance, Procurement, Performance & Value for Money, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 6.1 Task and Finish Group reviews have the scope to consider value for money issues which identify how well the Council is managing and using its resources to deliver value for money and better and more sustainable outcomes for local people.
- 6.2 Task and Finish Group reviews must take into consideration value for money considerations when conducting their work, including the costs and benefits (both financial and non-financial) associated with any recommendations made by the Group. The costs associated with administering the Task and Finish Group review has been met from existing resources within the Governance Service budget.
- 6.3 Highways Officers have reported that the recommendations made by the Group could be funded through the Local Implementation Plan funding allocation for 2015/16. In addition, Highways Officers have indicated that if the Council were

to adopt a policy on 20 mph zones and/or limits, that additional funding may be available from Transport for London for schemes of this nature. As such, the recommendations are proposing a reallocation of existing resources and also present an opportunity for an additional funding stream for the Council.

7. LEGAL ISSUES

- 7.1 Under Section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's executive arrangements are required to include provision for appointment of an Overview and Scrutiny Committee with specified powers, including the power to make reports or recommendations to the authority or the executive with respect to the discharge of any functions which are the responsibility of the executive.

8. CONSTITUTIONAL POWERS (Relevant section from the Constitution, Key/Non-Key Decision)

- 8.1 The scope of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees is contained within Part 2, Article 6 of the Council's Constitution.
- 8.2 The Terms of Reference of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees are set out in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules (Part 4 of the Constitution).
- 8.3 The Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Committees Terms of Reference states that one of their responsibilities is to:
- "To coordinate and monitor the work of scrutiny panels and task and finish groups, including considering reports and recommendations and referring to the relevant decision-making body."

9. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 9.1 At its meeting of 7 October 2013, the Business Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed to establish a Task and Finish Group to review the 20 MPH Zones with findings being reported to the Business Management Overview & Scrutiny Committee by the end of March 2014.
- 9.2 The Members appointed to this Group were: Councillors Kate Salinger (Chairman), Geof Cooke, Geoffrey Johnson, Hugh Rayner and Stephen Sowerby. The Group held its initial meeting on 20 January 2014 to consider the scope and approach to the review. At the meeting, the Group agreed initial key lines of enquiry and a future meeting schedule. A further meeting took place on 29 January.
- 9.3 The Group undertook site visits on 5 February 2014 to the London Boroughs of Harrow, Camden and Haringey.
- 9.4 A final meeting of the Group took place on 10 February 2014 for the Group to consider the draft report and recommendations which are set out in **Appendix A**.

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 None.

Cleared by Finance (Officer's initials)	JH
Cleared by Legal (Officer's initials)	AK