Proposed 20mph Speed Limit
Merton Hall Road Area

Dear Resident/Business

In line with Merton’s commitment to reduce vehicular speeds throughout the borough through a 20mph zone or a 20mph speed limit, funding has been allocated for 2008/09 financial year to convert existing traffic calmed roads within the borough into 20mph zones/speed limits. The proposed area, bounded by Dundonald Road to the north, Kingston Road to the south, Kingswood Road (inclusive) to the east and Lower Downs Road in the west is being considered for a 20mph speed limit. Please see the enclosed plan for the area.

A 20mph speed limit or 20mph zone is a dedicated area where improving safety and maintaining the quality of life for local residents takes precedence over the general objective to ease traffic movement. Traffic speeds within this area are not to exceed 20mph.

For a 20mph zone, traffic calming features in the form of road humps; speed cushions; road closures; one way systems; pedestrian refuge islands and road narrowings would have to be introduced to achieve a legal and self-enforceable zone. A 20mph speed limit, however, does not require any traffic calming features as part of the legal requirements except for the introduction of the appropriate signs, which are mounted at all the entry points into the area and road markings.

20mph Zone
As Merton Hall Road, Wilton Crescent, Fairlawn Road, Toynbee Road and Dundonald Road are the only roads within the proposed area with existing traffic calming features. To satisfy the legal requirements to implement a 20mph zone, additional traffic calming measures would have to be installed on the other roads at a maximum distance of approximately 100 metres apart. The roads without any traffic calming features are Henfield Road, Rayleigh Road, Cliveden Road, Wilton Grove, Mayfield Road, Kingswood Road, Sherwood Road, Avebury Road, Braeside Avenue, Mandeville Close, Rotherwood Close, Merton Hall Gardens, The Quadrant, Dennis Park Crescent, Burstow Road, Trevor Road, William Road, Newtown Road, Cochrane Road, Goodenough Road, and Caroline Road.

PROPOSALS
20mph Limit
Due to the large number of traffic calming features required for the implementation of a 20mph zone it has been agreed that a 20mph limit shall be introduced. The introduction of a 20mph limit shall require signage to be installed at all the entry points into the area and no additional traffic calming features.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?
A Notice of the Council’s intentions to make the Traffic Management Order (TMO) for the above measures will be published in the local newspaper, London Gazette and posted on lamp columns in the vicinity. Representations for and against must be done in writing to the Head of Street Scene and Waste Management Division, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX by no later than 10 October 2008, quoting reference ES/SGE/MERTONHALL20MPH.
Anyone who opposes the scheme must state the grounds upon which their objection is made. We also welcome letters in support.
Please note that responses to any representation received will not be made until a final decision is made by the Cabinet Member. The Council is required to give weight to the nature and content of your representations and not necessarily the quantity. Your reasons are, therefore, important to us.

A copy of the draft TMO, a plan identifying the area affected by the proposal and the Council’s ‘Statement of Reasons’ can be inspected at Wimbledon Library and at Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey during the Council’s working hours, Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm.

Please note that the outcome of the consultation, along with officers’ recommendations will be reported to either the Street Management Advisory Committee on 4 November 2008 or, if appropriate, earlier to the Cabinet Member for a decision. Once a decision is made, you would be informed accordingly via a newsletter.

CONTACT DETAILS

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