




DERBY CITY COUNCIL

 **EA PANEL TWO**  
**22 SEPTEMBER 2004**

Report of Assistant Director - Highways, Transportation and Waste Management

## **SPEED LIMIT – HOLMLEIGH WAY**

### **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 1.1 In April 2004 the Council received a petition signed by 9 residents requesting that the speed limit on Holmleigh Way be reduced from 40mph to 30mph.
- 1.2  Holmleigh Way was designed to eventually form part of the T12 road from the A50 to Wilmore Road and is not simply an access road to the residential area. The road was originally designed to be 50mph taking into account the function of the road, however once it was constructed it was considered that 40mph would be more appropriate.
- 1.3 The 40mph limit is correct for this type of road and is in accordance with Department of Transport guidelines. These guidelines set out the criteria for Local Authorities to use when deciding the most appropriate speed limit to set. It states that the limit is decided by taking into account the road geometry, environment and accident history. A speed survey then needs to be undertaken and if the observed 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is within 7mph or 20 per cent of the proposed limit, the limit may be introduced (the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed is the 85<sup>th</sup> highest speed out of 100 measured).
- 1.4 The character of Holmleigh Way is the same as that described for a 40mph limit in the guidelines. In Holmleigh Way there are no vehicle accesses to properties directly off Holmleigh Way and the residential properties do not have any frontages on to Holmleigh Way. The road is designed to eventually form part of a main traffic route to Wilmore Road. The road has adequate footways and crossing places where necessary. The refuges not only provide safe crossing points for pedestrians, but also assist in preventing higher vehicle speeds in conjunction with hatched carriageway markings.
- 1.5 In the seven month period between October 2003 to June 2004 there have been no recorded personal injury accidents in Holmleigh Way. A speed survey was undertaken in March 2004 and an 85<sup>th</sup> percentile reading of 43 mph was recorded. A further speed reading was undertaken in August 2004 with an 85<sup>th</sup> percentile of 40mph. Both these speeds are within 7mph or 20 per cent of the introduced limit.
- 1.6 Following the receipt of the petition the police were contacted again about the 40 mph limit. Their response was "speed limits have to be set at realistic levels if they are to be respected by drivers. Speed readings conducted by the City Council demonstrate a good level of compliance with the 40mph limit. If reduced to 30mph .....this could lead to high levels of non-compliance, accompanied by demands for enforcement."

- 1.7 It is therefore considered that, taking into account the nature and function of the road and the Polices comments, the 40 mph limit is the most appropriate speed limit for Holmleigh Way.

## PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 That the speed limit restriction on Holmleigh Way will not be reduced to 30mph from its current restriction of 40mph.

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**Background papers:** None  
**List of appendices:** None

