

Report to	<b>Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment</b>
Date	<b>25 July 2005</b>
Report By	<b>Director of Transport and Environment</b>
Title of Report	<b>Birkdale, Bexhill – Petition concerning Traffic Speeds</b>
Purpose of Report	<b>To advise the Lead Cabinet Member of the receipt of a petition and to seek approval to the proposed response.</b>

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

**To advise the petitioners that this location is currently on the County Council's priority list for traffic calming investigations and that, subject to the annual review of that priority list, it will be studied in detail when resources are available.**

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**1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 There are no immediate additional costs arising from this report.

**2. Supporting Information**

2.1 Prior to the County Council meeting on 22 February 2005, Councillor Gadd presented a petition to the Chairman calling for an investigation by the responsible authority into the speed of traffic travelling along Birkdale. A copy of the petition and covering letter is available in the Members' Room. Standing Orders provide that where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Lead Member and that a spokesperson for the petitioners be invited to address the Committee for up to five minutes. The Chairman has referred this petition to the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment.

**3. Comments / Appraisal**

3.1 At his meeting on 3 March 2003 the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment approved a revised procedure for dealing with requests for traffic calming. The procedure is intended to ensure that the time-consuming full assessment is only undertaken at those sites where the accident record indicates that treatment has the potential to contribute to the council's casualty reduction target. Qualifying sites are then assessed using a number of factors and placed on a priority list for further investigation.

3.2 In response to earlier requests Birkdale has previously been assessed for traffic calming and is currently No 36 on the priority list for investigation. It had previously been higher, but the accident history has improved in recent years, resulting in its lower rating in the overall assessment.

3.3 Correspondence with Sussex Police shows that their speed enforcement action is limited and targeted on sites where people are being injured. Birkdale is not one of these. Their Road Policing Department does however work with other agencies, including the County Council, to educate motorists to reduce their speed.

3.4 Currently resources are available for around four major traffic calming schemes to be implemented each year. Given its position at No. 36 on the priority list no investigations

would be carried out in Birkdale in the foreseeable future. The list is however reviewed annually and this situation could change in the future.

#### **4. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation**

4.1 The site is already on the priority list for traffic calming investigations and, subject to the annual review of that list, it will be studied in detail when resources are available.

BOB WILKINS  
Director of Transport and Environment

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Local Member: Councillor Gadd

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

File T/Bexhill/19.