

REPORT TO NEWTON POPPLEFORD PARISH COUNCIL

CLLR JESS BAILEY, OTTER VALLEY WARD DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

23RD MAY 2022

20 MPH SCHEMES

I submitted a question to the portfolio holder for highways Cllr Stuart Hughes at the Cabinet Meeting on 11th May 2022 to enquire about the roll out of the new 20mph schemes. You will recall that I had anticipated the scheme would be very oversubscribed. I asked Cllr Hughes how many communities had expressed an interest in 20mph schemes and what would be the timescale involved in choosing the schemes to be prioritized.

I set out below the full question and response.

QUESTION FROM COUNCILLOR BAILEY Re: 20mph Zones and Timescales Please can the portfolio holder for highways confirm..... (a) how many communities applied for 20mph zones (b) when will communities be notified whether they have been successful (c) what is the timescale for rolling out the new schemes.

REPLY BY COUNCILLOR HUGHES I am pleased to report that there has been a huge amount of engagement from our Communities in this process with 100 applications received. Our traffic management team are currently reviewing applications and prioritising in accordance with the ranking tools we shared in December.

I have asked that a Report is prepared for Cabinet to consider at our July meeting which will show applications in priority order with a recommendation on schemes to progress with budgets available for this financial year.

It is likely that 4 or 5 schemes will be progressed. Agreed schemes will be developed and implemented during the current financial year, subject to democratic process. It is clear that not all requests will be delivered and consideration will be needed as to how we continue to build on this work in future years.

So it seems that the scheme really is extremely oversubscribed. We will know more, including the communities that have been selected for this year, when the papers are published in advance of the July cabinet meeting. The meeting takes place on 13th July so I would expect the papers to be published around a week before this.

As a result of the heavy oversubscription to the scheme, my colleague Cllr Hodgson has put forward a motion (seconded by me) to significantly increase the number of schemes being brought forward. This is on the agenda for the Devon County Council meeting on 26th May, but will be discussed in detail at a subsequent meeting.

Implementation Process of 20mph Roads and Zones

Councillor Hodgson to move:

'In light of the level of response to the recent call by DCC for Town and Parish Councils to nominate roads for 20mph speed limits and zones, the Council will seek to investigate, support and implement at least 50% of the applications in this financial year, and consider the remainder for implementation in 2022/23'

I very much hope that Newton Poppleford will be amongst the first communities to be selected for the 20mph scheme for this year and will be keeping my fingers crossed.

COVID VACCINATIONS

'It's never too late to come forward for your vaccination,' says Director of Public Health

The director of public health is circulating this really important message. As well as urging people to come forward for their Spring Booster if they have not already done so Steve Brown is advising people that it is never too late to come forward for any of their vaccinations.