

Milton Keynes Council Speed Reduction Action Plan

Working in partnership to manage speed in local communities



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1. What's the issue?

This document sets out the councils Speed Reduction Action Plan as traffic speeds and the perception of speeding within some communities throughout Milton Keynes remains an issue.

1.1 Community requests about speeding concerns will be treated by the toolkit of measures within the Speed Reduction Action Plan. These include:-

- ✓ Traffic Calming (or other physical measures to reduce speed)
- ✓ Appropriate Speed Limits
- ✓ Safety Cameras (Fixed and Mobile)
- ✓ Community Speedwatch
- ✓ Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS)
(Speed related or Hazard related)
- ✓ Temporary Speed Indicator Devices (SID) – funded/operated by Town and Parish Councils
- ✓ Referral to Thames Valley Police (TVP)
for enforcement action as a
Community Concern Site
- ✓ Community message posters (sponsored by local organisations)
- ✓ MKC programme of speed education messages (literature and digital)

1.2 In order to deliver the most appropriate measure, a number of issues need to be considered as set out in the assessment criteria:

2. Things to consider (Assessment Criteria)

- 2.1 If there's an existing casualty problem, a collision remedial or traffic calming scheme could be developed, if there is an affordable realistic option.
- 2.2 MKC will check to ensure that the existing speed limit and signing is in line with national guidance. If not, the speed limit and/or signing will be amended.
- 2.3 Safety Cameras (speed and red light) could be implemented as per DfT guidance (Circular 01/07), if resource is available.
- 2.4 Other speed reduction measures may be provided as appropriate, in accordance with the following thresholds:-

Description	Measures					
	Community Speedwatch	Vehicle Activated Sign	Police Enforcement*	Speed Indicator Device	Temporary Community speed reduction signs	Educational/ Media Campaign
At least 2 PIC's at a specific hazard (eg bend or junction) within 3 yrs.		✓	✓			✓
85 %ile speeds above 35mph in 30 limit 46 mph in 40 limit 57 mph in 50 limit*		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Site of Community Concern.	✓				✓	✓

* enforcement guidelines

3. How we will carry out the measures

- ✓ We will try to use of sustainably powered (wind and solar) VAS devices in areas where power supplies are limited.
- ✓ We will 're-launch' Community Speedwatch throughout Milton Keynes offering equipment on a permanent loan basis to a number of 'hub' Local Councils. This enables communities to optimise value from the equipment and discover if a speeding issue exists in their local community. The scheme allows volunteers to record vehicle details, together with day, time and speed of the vehicle to be sent to the registered owner. Persistent offenders will be identified and targeted for further action by TVP Traffic Officers. If Community Speedwatch finds there is an ongoing speeding issue in a particular area this can be monitored for potential further measures.
- ✓ Speed Data Recorders will be used by MKC at locations considered to be of concern to the community to identify if further action is required.
- ✓ VAS installations must be capable of capturing data and for some sites link to MKC Urban Traffic Control systems.

- ✓ Privately funded (eg Town and Parish Council funded) SID and VAS can be erected, however the assessment criteria above must be met and the equipment and proposed locations must be approved by MKC. SID's operated by Town and Parish Councils will not be permitted to be in operation at any one site for a period of more than 5 days in any one month and a partnership agreement must be followed.
- ✓ Larger community groups, eg schools and/or business organisations who want to promote the local community speed reduction message will be encouraged to work with MKC and the community to produce and display community speed reduction posters. Such messages could be quirky, but fit into the community spirit of encouragement for road users to travel at speeds throughout the community to improve the wellbeing of all. The signs could be placed for longer periods of time at highly visible locations WITHIN the community group or business organisation premises. Business organisations would also be encouraged to support the production of speed message boards to be displayed at other locations within the community but on a temporary basis.
- ✓ MKC will deliver a programme of speed reduction promotional literature and messages throughout the community. This will be in various formats including distribution of materials produced nationally by the Think! Campaign and locally by MKC, TVP and local community groups. Community speed reduction messages will also be produced by MKC for inclusion in community newsletters for Town and Parish Councils, schools and also promoted to local business organisations. In addition to physical literature, relevant campaign messages will also be shared on digital platforms, eg twitter, Facebook, YouTube, etc.

4. Putting things in place

- ✓ The assessment criteria will be applied to requests for speed management action to determine what, if any action can be taken.
- ✓ Sites requiring casualty reduction measures and/or traffic calming measures will be considered as part of the MKC capital improvements programme.
- ✓ For safety cameras - requests should be referred to TVP for approval prior to implementation.
- ✓ For VAS – if funding is not available within the financial year, the highest ranking sites will be prioritised according to safety needs and will be submitted for consideration as part of the future capital programme.
- ✓ Measures including speed limits, SID operations, poster campaigns and referrals to TVP for enforcement will in most cases be undertaken within the current financial year on a continual programme.

- ✓ Ongoing monitoring of the sites will be undertaken where possible in order to assess their effectiveness and the results made available to the Community representatives.