



Wokingham Borough Council - Fact Sheets

No. TM-009

SPEEDING AND SPEED LIMITS

- If you hit a child at 40mph – the child is likely to die
- If you hit a child at 30mph – the child may be seriously injured
- If you hit a child at 20mph – the child will probably survive

If you are involved in an accident at 30mph, your passenger is three times more likely to be injured than at 20mph.

The Benefits of Speed Reduction

Excessive speed is one of the main causes of road accidents in Great Britain. In addition to improved road safety, speed reduction can result in reduced vehicle exhaust emissions and an improved quality of life for residents through reduced vehicle noise, reduced fear of traffic and a better environment in which to walk or cycle.

Speed Limits

Except in built up areas with streetlights (where a 30mph limit may automatically apply) speed limits are brought in through a Traffic Regulation Order. This is a long and costly process involving legal and consultation procedures. The Council therefore needs to make sure that new speed limits will bring benefits and concentrates on those that are likely to reduce accidents.

We have adopted a Speed Management Policy in line with national guidelines and will only introduce speed limits in accordance with this Policy with the support of the Police. Generally, this means that a lower speed limit will only be introduced if either:

- Most drivers are already travelling at speeds close to the proposed speed limit and there is a benefit to road safety in reducing the limits such as a reduction in PIA's; or
- New features, such as traffic calming, are put in at the same time as the speed limit to change drivers' behaviour.

Speed limits alone do not reduce drivers' speeds and speed limits are only introduced where they will be self-enforcing. Evidence shows that if drivers feel that the speed limit is unrealistic they will not reduce speed and may actually drive faster.

20mph Speed Limits

Legislation allows us to make traffic calmed 20mph zones or signed 20mph limits. As with other speed limits, 20mph limits are only appropriate where existing speeds are close to the proposed limit (average speed of 24mph or less).

The provision of a 20mph zone will require traffic calming to bring the vehicle down to 24mph or less.

Enforcement

Thames Valley Police carry out enforcement in the Wokingham Borough. For full details of enforcement please see the attached link: <http://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/rdsafe-roadpol-speedenforcement>

GENERAL DISCLAIMER: This 'Fact Sheet' is not intended to be other than a guide and is not produced by the Council as a legal document. It has been kept short and to the point especially to provide a general awareness of the subject and to assist those wishing to familiarise themselves with the issues for the first time.

March 2009

Community Speedwatch

Community Speedwatch is a traffic monitoring scheme that is co-ordinated by the Police and Buckinghamshire County Council but managed and run by volunteers in a community.

The volunteers are trained to use a detection device to monitor the speeds of vehicles travelling through their local area.

The registration number of speeding vehicles is recorded.

Warning letters are then sent out by the Police to the registered keepers stating that their vehicle has been reported as speeding. Locations for monitoring speed are selected from sites suggested by the community, based on where there is most local concern about speeding traffic, or the impact of speed.

If you or someone you know would prefer a copy of the fact sheet in an alternative format, such as audiotape, please call (0118) 974 6000.

ਇਹ ਪ੍ਰਕਾਸ਼ਨ ਵੇਕਿੰਘਮ ਬਾਰੋ ਕਾਊਂਸਲ ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪ੍ਰਸਤੁਤ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸਨੂੰ ਸਮਝਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੋਈ ਮਦਦ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰ ਕੇ ਨੰਬਰ (01753) 701159 'ਤੇ ਗੱਲ ਕਰੋ।

這份刊物是由獲敬威區政府印製的。如果你想獲得協助以了解其內容，請致電 (01753) 701159。

یہ اشاعت دوکنگہم ہاروکاؤنسل کی طرف سے شائع کی گئی ہے، اگر آپ اس کو سمجھنے میں مدد حاصل کرنا چاہتے ہیں تو برائے مہربانی اس نمبر پر رابطہ کریں۔ (01753) 701159

Niniejszy dokument został opublikowany przez Radę Miejską w Wokingham.
Jesli potrzebujesz pomocy w przetłumaczeniu tekstu, zadzwoń na numer (01753) 701159.

For more information, please contact Wokingham Direct on 0118 974 6000 or email:
Wokinghamdirect@wokingham.gov.uk

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