



Congleton Town Council

Historic Market Town

Chief Officer: David McGifford CILCA

4th February 2022

Congleton Town Council response to the Cheshire East Council Speed Management Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to respond as a Town Council to the recent Speed Management Strategy Consultation. This was discussed by Congleton Town Council at a special council meeting held on the 3rd February 2022.

The Council has opted not to answer the consultation questions which are very prescriptive but wanted to take the opportunity to give some feedback on this important area of work, please note that some councillors may have chosen to respond as individuals.

As a large Town Council, Congleton Town Council would expect to be treated as a partner in making sure that the speed limits are appropriate and safe in our area, yet this document offers very little in the way of support for Town and Parishes and if anything, it is off-putting. It threatens fines and costs if we do not install educational equipment correctly or leave Speed Indication Devices for more than 3 weeks in a location. Not a way to encourage a spirit of working together to improve our communities! We would like to have seen more about the art of what is possible, rather than focussing on what isn't allowed.

As a Town Council we are aware of several schools, residents and local organisations that are interested in reducing speed limits in some areas of the town and implementing the vision in the Local Transport Delivery Plan to encourage more cycling and walking for local journeys. We had hoped that this Speed Management Strategy would help make it clearer how we as a Town Council could help residents with this ambition and would set out a vision and route map for more appropriate speeds in the Cheshire East Borough area. Instead the document sets out an approach which is very prescriptive and doesn't appear to do much to galvanise any change in speed management.

Although the document is about speed limits across the borough, there seems little in the document that would help to make changes. In recent years there have been several sensible proposals put forward by our residents who are concerned about safety and speed on certain routes. The information contained in the speed management strategy help to explain why the change cannot be made ahead of any Killed or Seriously Injured statistics affecting the status rather than acting on evidenced based community concern, local

intelligence and knowledge that could be used to help create safer routes before a serious accident happens.

We were hoping that this document would be a catalyst for change and enabling a serious discussion on how Cheshire East could show leadership on changing the mindset on speeds as many boroughs have done up and down the country, sadly this does not seek to achieve that.

Yours sincerely

David McGifford
Deputy Chief Officer
Congleton Town Council



Congleton Town Council, Town Hall, High Street, Congleton, Cheshire CW12 1BN
Tel: **01260 270350**

Email: info@congleton-tc.gov.uk www.congleton-tc.gov.uk

