

ROADS AND AMENITY SERVICES UPDATE

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This briefing note provides an update on recent Roads and Amenity Services activity.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Committee is asked to note and consider the information contained within this update report.

3.0 DETAIL

Parking

- 3.1 A number of free car parks within Bute & Cowal are either not included on a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) or are included within a TRO which did not permit enforcement (this TRO is referred to as the 1987 Strathclyde Regional Council Off Street Car Park Order). In April 2017, the Bute & Cowal Area Committee agreed that a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) covering all off-street car parks in Bute & Cowal be progressed: <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=242&MId=7258&Ver=4> Subsequent to this at the February 2018 Council Budget meeting it again noted that this TRO should proceed. The TRO is included within the programme and is expected to progress over the next 6-12 months. If the TRO is implemented, it will allow the off street car parks to effectively managed and controlled through enforcement activities (issuing of Penalty Charge Notices by Parking Wardens). There are no immediate plans to amend the tariff structure, i.e. pay & display car parks will remain as pay and display and free car parks will remain free to use.

Speed surveys and Speed Restrictions

- 3.2 The Traffic Data Units are used to gather site specific information regarding vehicle speed, traffic volume and the HGV percentage of traffic volume. There

are a number of sites identified for surveys and these are being progressed within the programme. The information collected is shared with colleagues in Police Scotland (quid pro quo arrangement). If there are speeding issues identified then appropriate measures will be considered; which may include amending the speed restriction, implementing physical traffic management measures or using signs and road markings to influence driver behaviour.

- 3.3 The revised Road Speed Limit Policy Framework was agreed at the 16 February 2017 Policy & Resources Committee. The policy can be found under Item10 at <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/moderngov/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=544&MId=7383&Ver=4>
The Policy provides the background for the assessment of changes to speed limits.
- 3.4 Speed restrictions TROs are made under s82-84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The process is the same one as a TRO made for parking, no waiting and so on, however, normally there are early discussions with Police Scotland before embarking on the process. Once started, the progression of a speed restriction will take 6-12 months to completion although it should be noted that proposed speed restrictions rarely stimulate objections and are often a smoother process.
- 3.5 The off road parking spaces to the south of the Rock Café were constructed when the new breakwater was built. The area has never been included in The Strathclyde Regional Council (OFF ROAD PARKING PLACES) (CONTROLLING REGULATIONS) ORDER 1987. This TRO has the definitive list of Argyll and Bute Council's Car Parks. The proposal is to add this area to the above TRO when the Dunoon Parking Review progresses. Currently it is maintained by the council but its status is as "an area where cars park". As such, this location is not currently enforced by the Council in terms of parking management.

Service Redesign and the Hub

- 3.6 Officers were due to attend the January Business Day meeting, however, this was cancelled due to the weather condition on the day. It was intended to give Members a presentation detailing the recent restructure, the evolving and developing Control Hub and the work that has been ongoing to improve customer contact (both Elected Members and members of the public). It is understood that this meeting will be rescheduled where a further opportunity will be presented for this session.

Jim Smith, Head of Roads and Amenity Services
February 2019