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**REPORT TO: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE ON 15 JUNE 2010**

**SUBJECT: PROPOSED 20 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION, U48E GORDONSTOUN ROAD, DUFFUS**

**BY: DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

**1. REASON FOR REPORT**

1.1 The Committee is asked to approve the promotion of a 20 mph speed limit on U48E Gordonstoun Road, Duffus as detailed in **Appendix B** and as shown on the plan in **Appendix A** to this report.

1.2 This report is submitted to Committee in terms of the Council's Administrative Scheme relating to the making of Orders for the regulation of traffic.

**2. RECOMMENDATION**

**2.1 That the Committee agree:-**

(a) to approve the proposal to introduce a 20 mph speed limit on U48E Gordonstoun Road, Duffus and instruct the Director of Environmental Services and the Chief Legal Officer to proceed with the statutory process and;

(b) to instruct the Director of Environmental Services and the Chief Legal Officer to make and implement the order if, following the consultation period, there are no outstanding objections.

**3. BACKGROUND**

3.1 The proposal seeks to improve road safety for all residents and visitors, especially vulnerable road users and young people travelling on the U48E Gordonstoun Road, Duffus

3.2 Following the consent of planning application (Ref 3/02546/FUL) which was granted to Gordonstoun Schools Ltd on 5 March 2004 to erect Aberlour House as additional residential and classroom accommodation, the following condition was imposed in the interests of road safety

*“No development shall commence until full technical specification and layout details have been submitted to and been agreed with the council as planning authority, in consultation with the transportation manager regarding the following requirements:*

(i) *junction improvement at the school access road/B9012 Duffus road junction;*

- (ii) *footpath provision from the development to the Duffus/B9012 junction;*
- (iii) *passing places on the access road between the development and the Duffus/B9012 junction;*
- (iv) *the timing of the for the completion of the matters agreed in (i), (ii), and (iii) above and thereafter, the junction improvement and provision for footpath and passing places shall be in accordance with the approved plans”.*

3.3 Following submission by Gordonstoun School Ltd of a retrospective planning application, 08/02488/FUL, dated 12 November 2008, which had not been determined by the Council, which proposed to erect Aberlour House, and appeal the planning conditions contained within planning permission 03/022546/FUL dated 5 March 2004, an appeal decision was made by the Reporter, Lance R Guildford on 17 April 2009.

3.4 The decision by the Reporter on 17 April allowed the appeal of the planning conditions related to the provision of road improvements and granted retrospective planning permission for the retention of Aberlour House residential and classroom accommodation.

3.5 The Reporter placed the following requirement upon Gordonstoun School Ltd in his decision:

“Full technical specification and layout details shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the council as planning authority, in consultation with the transportation manager regarding the following requirements:

- (i) the delineation by road markings of an area for pedestrian use along the U48E school access road, from its junction with the B9012 to the entrance of the school;
- (ii) improvements to the edge of the carriage way and the edge and surface of the existing passing places, and traffic calming measures(including at the junction with the B9012) along the carriageway of the U48E school access road from its junction with the B9012 to the entrance to the school;
- (iii) the timing for the completion of the matters agreed in (i) and (ii) above.

The above specification and layout details shall be submitted to the council as planning authority within 6 months of the date of this permission, and thereafter, the above requirements shall be provided in accordance with the approved plans and within the timescale specified in (iii) above”.

3.6 As a result of ongoing discussions between officers and representatives of Gordonstoun School the provision of alternative traffic calming proposals have been agreed in principle to include specific works to improve the junction of

the school access road with the B9012, delineating a walking area (instead of providing a footpath), providing surface and edge improvements and traffic calming (instead of providing further passing places) and alternative traffic calming measures. The proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit will seek to enhance the effect of these measures, and thereby ensure that the lower speed limit is self enforcing.

- 3.7 The proposal will seek to mitigate the effects of additional vehicular and pedestrian traffic that will result from the developments that have been constructed within the Gordonstoun site.

#### **4. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS**

**(a) Single Outcome Agreement/Service Improvement Plan**

**The proposal adheres to National and Local Outcomes by striving to ensure that there are no collisions or people injured on Moray's roads.**

**(b) Policy and Legal**

**This proposal complies with the requirements of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.**

**(c) Resources (Financial, Risks, Staffing and Property)**

**The cost of the traffic calming works will be met in full by Gordonstoun School, whilst cost of promoting the order, and installing the associated signing is estimated to be £3000 and funding can be met from the Road Safety Capital Plan for 2010/11, if approved.**

**There are no staffing or property implications from this report.**

**(d) Consultations**

**Scott Mann, Traffic Inspector of Grampian Police has been consulted on this report and is in agreement with the report.**

**Lorraine Paisey, Principal Accountant has been consulted on this report and is in agreement with the financial implications.**

**Aileen Scott, Principal Solicitor (Commercial and Conveyancing) has been consulted and is in agreement with the report.**

**Mr Hugh Brown, Financial Director, Gordonstoun School has been consulted on this report and is supportive of the proposal.**

**The Elected Members for Heldon and Laich have been advised and any comments they have can be made at the meeting.**

**5. CONCLUSIONS**

- 5.1 It is proposed to promote a traffic regulation order which will have the effect of introducing a 20mph speed limit along the U48E Gordonstoun Road, Duffus (see attached plan in Appendix A and schedule in Appendix B).**

Author of Report: Kevin Price, Engineer (Traffic)

Background Papers: None

Ref: ARD/KMP/

**SCHEDULE**

**“PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT”**

<b>Roads in Duffus</b>	<b>Location</b>
U48E Gordonstoun Road	From its junction with the B9012, Hopeman Road, to its boundary with the entrance to the school, a distance of approximately 700 metres.

**STATEMENT OF REASONS**

The speed restrictions are being introduced to improve road safety for all road users, especially pedestrians. The lower speed limit will complement the introduction of the traffic management measures by Gordonstoun School and result from the decision by the Recorder on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2009 regarding the Planning Application 08/02488/FUL (12 November 2008) and the planning appeal against conditions to provide traffic calming measures and carry out road improvements imposed by Planning Application 03/02546/FUL (5 March 2004).