

## PRESS RELEASE

**For immediate release**

### **GODALMING TOWN COUNCIL MOVES TO SUPPORT “20 IS PLENTY”**

At a recent meeting of Godalming Town Council's Policy & Management Committee, Councillor Steve Williams proposed the motion “20 is Plenty”, which would reduce speed limits in designated areas to 20mph. A statement was submitted by the Godalming Cycle Campaign and Members also heard research supporting the motion.

Research from UK and abroad has shown that wide-area default speed limits of 20mph/30kph have reduced traffic speeds in the first year of operation, with the largest speed reductions on the fastest roads. Default speed limits of 20mph/30kph have also reduced road traffic collisions by up to 40% and town and village casualties by 20%. Journey times have shown only an increase of just 10 seconds per mile with streets made quieter with a 10mph reduction in speed halving traffic noise. Other benefits showed that the speed reduction encouraged more walking, cycling and social engagement, especially for older people and young children. Vehicle emissions were reduced by 12% due to less acceleration and braking and 75% of residents and motorists feel that, after installation, 20mph limits have benefitted the local community.

The Town Council believes that the implementation of a 20mph area-wide speed limit in Godalming, combined with a public information campaign, would have immediate beneficial impacts upon road safety, air quality, active transport and community well-being in this location, and would support the Council's climate emergency objectives. In accepting the motion, Councillors agreed that the Leader of the Town Council should request that Surrey County Council prioritise the establishment of a 20mph area-wide speed limit in Godalming, and also request that Waverley Borough Council task its own Officers to work in partnership with Godalming Town Council and Surrey County Council to progress the implementation of a 20mph area-wide speed limit in Godalming.

For all information on Godalming Town Council meetings, dates of future meetings and agenda/minutes, please visit [www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/councilmeetings/](http://www.godalming-tc.gov.uk/councilmeetings/)

Ends...

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