



Community Highways Request Policy

Introduction

The purpose of this policy is to guide Councillors in assessing requests for support from the public for Highways improvements related to parking, speeding and the anti-social use of vehicles.

Weymouth Town Council is not the provider of these improvements, but Dorset Council will only consider improvements that are supported by the Town Council. Dorset Council determines which projects can move forward within the available budgets, taking into account the evidence available.

If the Town Council resolves to support a particular request, this is no guarantee that Dorset Council will be able to take action after assessing the relative need and budget available. There are many competing demands across Dorset for such interventions and Dorset Council officers will determine priorities.

In order for a request to be added to a Planning and Licensing Committee agenda for consideration the following points will need to be met:

Submitting a request

1. The request must be made in writing (email permitted) and include the relevant information along with a map clearly showing the area and the exact location of requested interventions.
2. Written requests must also be accompanied by the name of at least one of the local ward Town Councillors who already supports the proposal.
3. Requests without the required level of support will be returned to the requester detailing the additional information needed.

Community Support

4. The scheme must be supported by a named resident of the age of 16 or over, who is directly affected by the request, plus a local Town Councillor.

Speed related request

5. For requests regarding speed related interventions, local residents are requested to operate a community speed watch in the specific area and that this must show clear evidence of excessive speeds and to have operated for a period of time sufficient to enable an assessment to be made on the success of the speed watch to change driver behaviour. Community speed watch is a proven way for the community to address local speeding issues and can bring about tangible changes in driver behaviour. <https://www.dorsetroadsafe.org.uk/enforcement-operations/community-speed-watch/>

6. Members should bear in mind that if the Committee resolves to support a speed related scheme and speed data is not available for that site, WTC may be requested to fund the speed survey at a minimum cost of £250.00 per site. Dorset Council has a limited budget for surveys that it allocates to its priority sites. It is unlikely that community requests will become a priority.

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