

Agenda Item No. 4(e)

**DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER - HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE**

**20 January 2015**

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**ADDITION TO THE 2014-15 CAPITAL PROGRAMME – SPEED  
DETECTION EQUIPMENT**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to add the purchase of calibrated speed detection equipment to the Capital Programme 2014-15 and to make grants to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire for the purchase of calibrated speed detection equipment and maintenance of the equipment for a three year period.

(2) **Information and Analysis** Over a quarter of collisions where people are killed or seriously injured in Derbyshire are speed related and, therefore, many injuries could be avoided if drivers thought more about their speed. This is a clear priority for the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership given the direct link between speed and collisions as evidenced by speed's inclusion in the 'Fatal 4,' which are the four main causes of death on the roads, namely speed, drink, not wearing a seat-belt and using mobile phones whilst driving. The Partnership is currently working on a Speed Management Protocol. This will be more effectively implemented with the purchase of the handheld speed detection equipment proposed in this report as it will enable local Police to carry out more speed enforcement; which is one of the Protocol's main objectives.

Purchase of the speed detection equipment will also enable the Police to increase the amount of time spent on speed education/enforcement across the County and provide the opportunity to conduct speed operations on a wider selection of routes where there is evidence of a high collision. This additional activity should reduce accidents and lessen the severity of injuries by influencing driver behaviour. The purchase of the speed detection equipment would also allow Police officers to carry out speed enforcement work on more routes, in direct response to community concerns about speed on local roads, thereby helping the Partnership to show that it is listening to the community.

The purchase of the equipment will ensure that sufficient equipment is available for use by the Police to carry out speed enforcement work. It is proposed that the Public Sector Agreement 2 funding (PSA2), which is only for use across Derbyshire County Council, be used to purchase the equipment. This is funding which was awarded to the County Council from Central Government for meeting its 2008 road safety targets.

The project will be overseen by the Head of Roads Policing, Derbyshire Police and administered on a day to day basis by the Police's Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST). CREST will provide training for officers, monitor offences detected and time spent on enforcement work and will also oversee the roll out and regular checks of the equipment. The equipment will primarily be used to enforce on 'priority routes', which are roads allocated to local section officers as part of the Partnership's new Top 100 Priority routes approach, which aims to reduce the numbers of drivers speeding. Without the equipment, the Partnership will not be able to deliver on the commitment it has given to communities to make roads safer and tackle their complaints of speeding.

Enforcement by the local Police sections will supplement the enforcement work already undertaken by CREST and Roads Policing officers. The equipment is required urgently as the Priority Routes were launched on 1 October 2014 and to date, some sections do not have the ability to enforce on their allocated routes. Updates on speed enforcement work will be provided by CREST as required by the Partnership and Derbyshire County Council. This will be an ongoing project whilst ever speed remains a road safety priority.

Only Police trained staff who are able to use the equipment in a legally enforceable capacity. The Police have experience in procuring such equipment, therefore it has been agreed that the Police will organise the purchase and distribution of the equipment.

**(3) Financial Considerations** The purchase of the calibrated speed detection equipment is £18,900 plus VAT. The cost of a contract for the maintenance and calibration of the equipment for 3 years is £6,500.

The combined cost of £25,400 for the equipment and maintenance agreement can be met from the PSA2 Reward earmarked reserve. Of this £25,400, a Revenue Contribution of £18,900 will be made to Capital to fund the purchase of the speed detection equipment.

**(4) Legal Considerations** The County Council, as the local traffic authority for Derbyshire, sets and reviews speed limits on local roads. The Police and the County Council are each partners within the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership, which works to reduce deaths and

injuries on the county's roads through education, road improvements and policing.

### **Other Considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(6) **Key Decision** No.

(7) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No

(8) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Claire Molyneux, extension 38573.

(9) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member:

- 9.1 Approves the purchase of hand-held speed detection equipment to be added to the Capital Programme 2014-15.
- 9.2 Approves the Grant of £18,900 for the purchase of speed detection equipment to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire.
- 9.3 Approves the award of a Grant of £6,500 to fund the maintenance and calibration of the speed detection equipment for three years to the Police and Crime Commissioner for Derbyshire.

**Mike Ashworth**  
**Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment**