

<b>SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 4</b>
<b>25 January 2010</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## Report of the Solicitor to the Council

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### RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS MADE BY THE COMMISSION

#### 1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Commission of the responses to recommendations made at previous meetings.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Commission consider the responses to the recommendations made and agree if, and how, the implementation of the recommendations will be monitored.

#### 3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 During the Commission's meeting on 23 November 2009, a number of recommendations were made following consideration of reports on Traffic Mitigation, Fly Tipping, Cycle Routes and Rail Links.
- 3.2 The recommendations were subsequently submitted to the Traffic Manager and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Community Development, Senior Enforcement Officer, Travel Choice Manager and Transportation and Development Group Manager with a request that responses were received by 11 January 2010.
- 3.3 A copy of the recommendations made and the responses are attached at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 Further responses to questions from the Travel Choice Manager and the Traffic Manager are listed below:

##### **Is it legal for under 16's to ride electric bikes?**

Chief Inspector Steve Welby (Safer Peterborough Partnership Strategy Manager) referred the matter to Brian Hayward from the Collision Enquiry Unit. He believes electric bikes are treated as normal bicycles and therefore it would be legal for children to ride them on a road. This is providing it is genuinely an electric bike and not some form of mini moped (which would have to have an internal combustion engine). The rules related to cycles would apply so the bike would need to be the appropriate size etc for the child, with reflector and obviously lights at night. I hope this provides sufficient detail.

##### **Who maintains the Green Wheel?**

The recent resurfacing work has been carried out by the city council's Natural Networks team, who liaised with the Council's Highways engineers and Ringways who carried out the works. We have requested information about the recent resurfacing described as a 'cowboy job' and will update the Commission once we have further information. At present, Travelchoice and Natural Networks are reviewing the locations and use of barriers on the Green Wheel and where appropriate replace with bollards to enable cyclists with trailers, double pushchairs and hand cyclists to use the routes whilst preventing/discouraging the use of motorcycles/cars.

**Cars travel in excess of 60mph north Willow Drove, Corporation Bank to Peakirk. Who is**

**responsible and what can be done? For shared spaces who decides who has priority?**  
Willow Drove is adopted highway and thus the police would be able to enforce against speeding vehicles. There are two possible actions that could be taken to raise the awareness of motorists to the presence of pedestrians and cyclists:

- One would be to erect “Pedestrian in Road” warning signs with a subplate indicating the distance over which the signs applies. (There are no similar signs for cyclists as they should be on the road rather than the footway if one was present)
- The second would be to consider the use of “Quiet Lane” designation which indicates to motorists that other road users are likely to be in the road and that they should drive accordingly. Such designation requires a statutory consultation process to be followed prior to any implementation, which I would need to explore further before confirming its suitability.

**Other information:**

- The rural area guides are due to be printed and will be delivered in two weeks time. These will be made available from the Destination Centre, the Travelchoice Centre and the usual Travelchoice outlets. Ideas are welcomed for additional locations to stock both the free rural guide maps and the Peterborough Cycle Map (which retails at £1.50, cost price £1.00) particularly in the rural areas.
- The three Interchange Information posters mentioned are complete and are scheduled to be mounted to bus stops at Castor, Ailsworth and Glinton early in the New Year.

**4. KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The Committee is asked to consider the responses and agree if, and how, the implementation of the recommendations will be monitored.

**5. IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Any implications are contained within the individual responses to the recommendations.

**6. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

Minutes of the meeting of the Scrutiny Commission for Rural Communities held on 23 November 2009

**7. APPENDICES**

1. Recommendations List.
2. Travel Choice Rural Area Action Plan.