

**SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES
RESPONSES TO RECOMMENDATIONS 25 JANUARY 2010**

Item	Recommendations	Response Requested by 11 March 2010
Children's and Youth Centre Provision	To receive a further breakdown of performance figures to include whether children living in urban areas attending rural schools tend to perform better than urban children attending urban schools.	Refer to Appendix 2.
Climate Change and Rural Areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recommend that the Climate Change team begin a heat loss study in at least three (3) rural areas / parish councils with work to be carried out before spring. 2. Recommend that the Climate Change Team roll out a description to other parish councils of what Glington has been doing. 3. Recommend that the Climate Change team notifies other rural schools of the work undertaken by John Clare school with two solar panels and woodchip boiler system. 4. Recommend that the Climate Change team investigate a 'barrier down, engine off' initiative at railway crossings in rural areas. 	<p>Update from the Climate Change team:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The thermal handgun required to undertake the work has been purchased and staff have recently undergone training in its proper use. Engagement with Glington and Peakirk Green to start surveying these areas has begun. The Parish Council will be borrowing the handgun to undertake the work and will also receive extensive training. The work has been found to be more complex and involved than initially believed, and the last recommended surveying date is April 7th. Once the work has been completed in Glington, the programme will be rolled out through the winter of 2010/11 in other rural villages that are interested in participating. 2. Unfortunately Glington was unsuccessful in its bid for funding through the Low Carbon Communities scheme. The Climate Change Team will work with Glington Parish Council on preparing documentation to promote its work to other Parish Councils. 3. A Carbon Reduction in Schools event will be taking place on 25th March which will include as case studies the work of John Clare school and others, for example Newborough and Orton Wistow, which have climate friendly initiatives.
Traffic Mitigation	At its meeting on 23 November 2009, the Commission recommended that the Traffic Manager and Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods, Housing and Community Development impose a	Peter Tebb, Traffic Manager has provided the following update:

Appendix 1

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	<p>20mph speed limit outside rural Primary Schools ahead of receipt of the Government's Road Safety Strategy 2020.</p> <p>At its meeting on 25 January 2010 the Commission heard that this may be rolled out across Peterborough as a whole.</p>	<p>Initial investigations in to where the proposed zones would start and finish have been undertaken.</p> <p>It is hoped that letters of informal consultation will be issued to the Parish Councils, Schools and Ward Councillors & police later this month before proceeding to the statutory consultation process.</p> <p>The funding to undertake such works has been identified through next year's Safer Journeys to school budget as part of the capital programme of works.</p> <p>Basic speed surveys are also being undertaken at present to determine base line data for comparison against post implementation data – for those speed limits that go ahead.</p> <p>It would be realistic to expect that that any speed limit changes would be implemented towards the end of June.</p>

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