



Cabinet – 10th February 2017

Liberal Democrat Comments on Community Speed Enforcement

A number of my Liberal Democrat colleagues across the Country, including the Mayor of Bedford, have been campaigning for the proposals in this paper for a while now. It will be good to see this Council joining the effort.

Cameras are a much preferable solution to address speeding compared to other traffic calming measures such as road bumps, which are also a pain for responsible drivers.

Speed bumps are not popular as they are uncomfortable and noisy and appear to have no impact on particular drivers who regards them as a challenge rather than a deterrent. HGVs driven at speed over these humps in residential areas only exacerbate the problem which is even more acute at night when the background noise drops.

It makes sense that the fines be used to fund enforcement measures rather than go to central Government coffers. However, this measure must be seen as a means of controlling speeds rather than as yet another tax raising measure imposed on the already hard pressed motorist. We need to make it clear that the money will only be used to fund the enforcement measure and that the Council will not benefit from any surplus.

The Liberal Democrats support the recommendations.

David Bill

Liberal Democrat Spokesman for Environment and Transport

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