4. SPEED MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: ALTERATION BYLAW FOR PART-TIME SPEED LIMITS RR 10772

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Corporate Plan Output: Traffic Signs and Markings	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the need for the Council to alter the Council's Traffic and Parking Bylaw to create 40 km/h part-time speed limits within school zones.

BACKGROUND

The Council will be aware of the discussions that have taken place with the Land Transport Safety Authority (LTSA) relating to the proposal to trial 40 km/h part-time speed limits within school zones outside five schools in the city. The issues raised by the LTSA relating to publicity, enforcement, monitoring and trial evaluation procedures have been addressed and the project has been programmed to come into operation on Wednesday 26 January 2000 which is the first day of school in the new year.

Although the LTSA has authority (under existing traffic law) to authorise trials of traffic devices (signs and markings) the authority has recently informed us that the LTSA cannot legally introduce part-time speed limits. This is currently a road controlling authority bylaw matter.

PROCESS

The Council will need to make an alteration to the fourth schedule in the Christchurch City Traffic and Parking Bylaw 1991 to provide for the proposed 40 km/h part-time speed limits outside:

- Bishopdale School
- Branston Intermediate School
- Harewood School

Transit New Zealand will be creating a (separate) bylaw for the sections of state highways outside:

- Belfast School
- Halswell School

Plans detailing the five school zones are attached to this report.

CONCLUSION

Bylaw procedures will need to be completed prior to the introduction of the new 40 km/h part-time speed limits within the school zones outside the five schools. The Council's Legal Services Manager, Peter Mitchell will be preparing a Traffic and Parking Alteration bylaw for the Council to consider at its meeting on 25 November 1999. Provisions will be made in the fourth schedule of the bylaw to allow schools to operate the 40 km/h part-time speed limits before and after school or such other times as may be determined by the team that will be set up to oversee the trials.

Recommendation:

That procedures be commenced to amend the Christchurch City Traffic and Parking Bylaw 1991 to allow for the operation of 40 km/h part-time speed limits within school zones outside Bishopdale, Branston Intermediate and Harewood Schools.