

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School 40 MPH Speed Limit

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

10 November 2022

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce a 40 MPH speed limit in the vicinity of Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the 40 MPH speed limit on the surrounding roads with Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School is introduced as proposed.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"

Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

Learning - "We want you to achieve and realise your potential"

Key Issues

- 1. The County Council has received concerns regarding traffic speeds near Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School.
- 2. The provision of a 40 MPH speed limit will allow advisory 20 when lights flash signage to be introduced.
- 3. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor and school representatives.
- 4. The scheme is to be funded by the Local Transport Plan 2022/23 programme.

Background

The introduction of speed limit changes on the roads leading to Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School forms part of the 2022/23 Local Transport Plan. The scheme ties in with the County Council's road safety initiative to introduce reduced speed limits adjacent to all schools in Northumberland provided it is feasible to do so. Anecdotal evidence suggests that measures of this kind adjacent to schools provide a safer environment for all road users.

Concerns have been raised regarding vehicles speeding through the roads situated outside of the school, which presents road safety issues for pedestrians such as schoolchildren, cyclists and those navigating through the route with the risk of collisions occurring.

As a result, a 40 MPH speed limit is proposed to be introduced in order to alleviate these concerns and covers the areas identified below in Figure 1. As the routes approach closer to the school entrance, advisory 20 when lights flash signage will be provided to notify motorists that the speed should be significantly reduced during school start and end times. The measures will consist of new regulatory traffic signs along with road markings in the form of roundels at the gateways of each restriction to indicate the new speed limit.

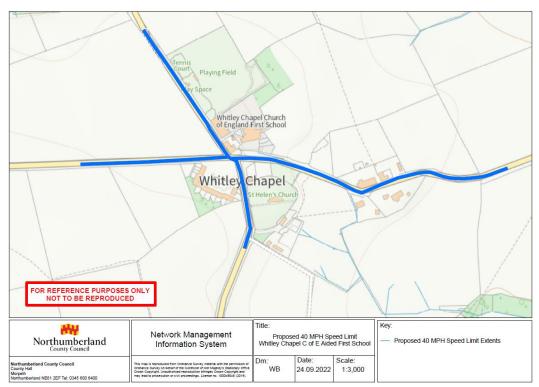


Fig 1: Proposed 40 MPH speed limit extents at Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School

Details of the proposals can be found in Appendix A. They are intended to increase road safety by reducing speed limits and to protect the amenity of the area overall. Northumbria Police, other emergency services and relevant statutory consultees will be notified of these amendments as part of the process for making the permanent Orders.

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the Local Transport Plan 2022/23 programme
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	N/A
(Impact Assessment attached)	
Yes □ No □ N/A □	
Risk Assessment	The proposal is designed to reduce the risks associated with driving at speed
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement
Customer Consideration	A reduction in speed will lead to a safer environment for all road users
Carbon reduction	Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction
Wards	South Tynedale

Delegated Decision

Background Papers:

File reference – S:\Highways\PROJECT\21\HE Minor Improvements\HE213581D - Whitley Chapel CofE First School

Author and Contact Details

Report Author William Binks, Programme Officer

Title of Officer:

DECISION TAKEN

Service Director, Local Services

Subject:	Proposed 40 MPH Speed Limit at Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School
Consultation:	Not required on the grounds of road safety, however statutory consultees have been informed
Decision Taken:	To introduce a new 40 MPH speed limit at Whitley Chapel Church of England Aided First School
Signature of Director	
Afril	
Date 10 November 2022	

Appendix A - Scheme Plans



