



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

Fenwick Village 30mph Speed Limit Extension

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

15 December 2022

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposed extension of a 30mph speed limit in association with new traffic calming measures at Fenwick Village.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed extension of the existing 30mph speed limit at Fenwick Village is approved.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living – ‘We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for’
Enjoying – ‘We want you to love where you live’

Key Issues

1. The County Council has received concerns about traffic speeds on the approach to Fenwick Village from the west and through the village itself.
2. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor and the local Parish Council.
3. The scheme is to be funded through the 2022/23 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

Delegated Decision

Background

The B6353 road is the main route through Fenwick Village and provides a link between the A697 and the A1 roads. Fenwick Village is situated just west of the junction of the B6353 and the A1. An existing 30mph speed limit is in operation in the residential section of the B6353 flowing through the village before returning to the National Speed Limit.

At the western side of Fenwick, the approach to the start of the existing 30mph speed limit is a downhill section of road which can lead to high speeds on entry to the 30mph area. Conversely, traffic exiting the village has been observed to speed up in advance of the national speed limit signs as it prepares to climb uphill.

Just outside the existing 30mph speed limit there is a junction with the U29 road. Vehicles entering and exiting this junction can encounter through traffic travelling at relatively high speeds, giving rise to safety concerns.

A speed survey was carried out in Fenwick within the 30mph speed limit in June 2022, at a point between the village centre and the western speed limit terminal signs. The survey recorded 85th percentile speeds of 35.5mph which is above the threshold where enforcement of the speed limit can be considered.

In order to address this issue, and as part of wider measures within Fenwick to reduce traffic speeds, it is proposed to extend the 30mph speed limit, as shown in Figure 1 below.

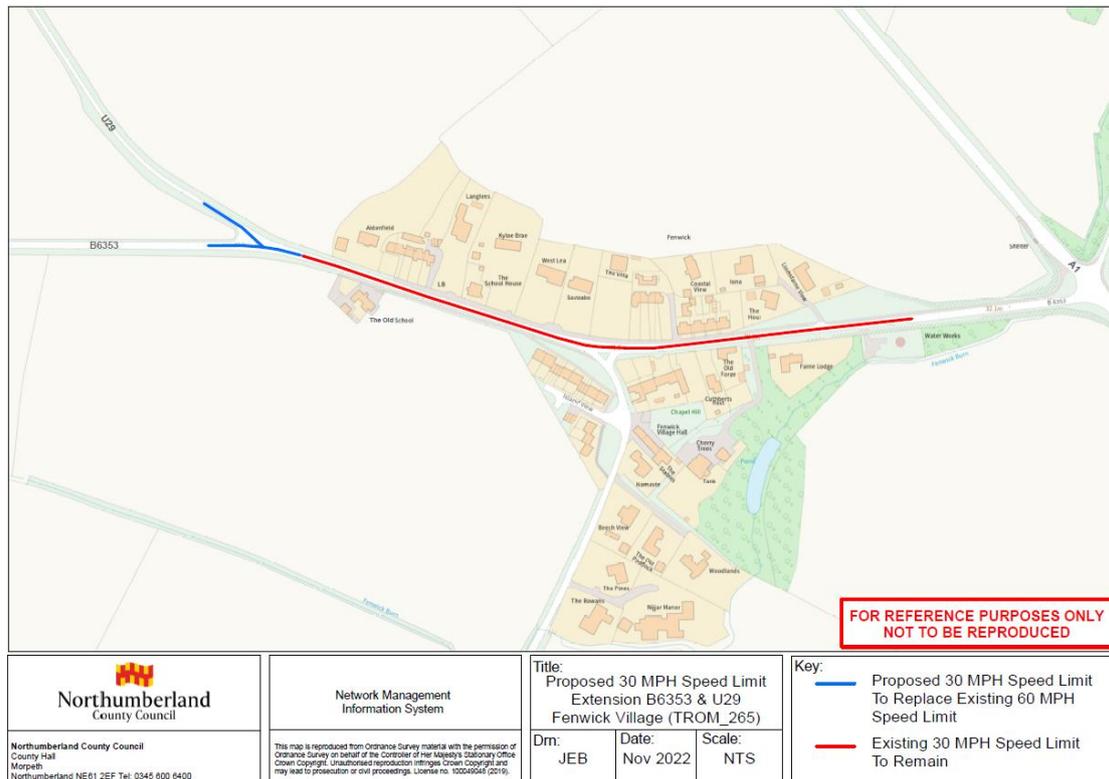


Fig. 1: Proposed extension of the 30mph speed limit at Fenwick Village

To enhance the visual impact of the change in speed limit, new gateway signs are proposed to be installed at the western and eastern ends of the 30mph section of the B6353 at Fenwick Village. As well as a 30mph speed restriction sign, the gateway signs will display a sign with the message ‘Welcome to FENWICK Please drive carefully’ on the approach to the village.

It is expected that the speed limit reduction measures will promote slower traffic speeds at Fenwick Village where pedestrians may be present and where vehicles may be accessing residential properties. It will also reduce traffic speeds at the B6353/U29 junction.

Details of the wider traffic calming proposals can be found in Appendix A. These have been subject to extensive consultation and discussion with Kyloe Parish Council and the local Ward Member.

Delegated Decision

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	The scheme will be financed through the LTP 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
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
Ward	Norham & Islandshires

Delegated Decision

Background Papers

File reference – S:\Highways\PROJECT\21\HF Local Safety Schemes\Rural Road Schemes\HF214143D- Fenwick Village

Appendix A – Scheme Layout

Author

Report Author Jason Bailey, Technical Assistant

Delegated Decision

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer	Service Director, Local Services
Subject	Proposed 30mph speed limit extension at Fenwick Village
Consultation	Not required for the extension of a 30mph speed limit restriction at Fenwick Village on grounds of road safety, although statutory consultees will be informed.
Decision Taken	To extend the 30mph speed limit at Fenwick Village

Signature of Director



Date
07.03.23
