

# NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland County Council

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR

### CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

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#### PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT ALTERATIONS VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

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##### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the introduction of new 30 mph speed limits, 40 mph speed limits and extended 30 mph speed limits on various roads throughout the County.

##### **Recommendations**

##### **It is recommended that:**

Given the outcome of the consultation as well as the comments received it is recommended that the proposed Speed Limit Alterations should proceed.

##### **Key Issues**

1) As part of this current years LTP minor improvements, schemes based on the County Council's policy for the introduction of lower speed limits were prepared and consulted on. More detailed information on the proposal is contained on the plan attached in Appendix 1.

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Report Author

**Stefan Bell**  
(01670) 624131  
Stefan.Bell@northumberland.gov.uk

# PROPOSED SPEED LIMIT ALTERATIONS VARIOUS LOCATIONS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

## Background

### Introduction

1. The County Council receives a large number of requests for the introduction of road safety measures reflecting a widespread concern over traffic speeds. Many of these requests relate to speed limits, and as part of the current year's programme of Minor Improvement Schemes the site listed below were identified as potential locations for the introduction of amended speed limits;

C272 & C273 Broomley Village – 30 mph Speed Limit

A193 Bebside – 30 mph Extension

C127 Longhirst Village – 30 mph Extension

B6320 & C199 Bellingham - 30mph extension & a 40mph speed limit

C390 Swarland

A695 Farnley – 40 mph Speed Limit

A1068 Hartford Bridge – 40 mph Speed Limit

### Consultation

2. Statutory consultation with the emergency services, road user groups and local councils has been carried out. The Executive Member for Highways and Transport and the appropriate local Members have also been consulted.
3. 10 responses were received to the consultation exercise with no objections to the speed limit amendments apart from Bellingham Parish Council who objected to the proposed 40 mph speed limit, and requested that this be changed to 30 mph speed limit.
4. Alternative speed limit proposals for Bellingham were initially considered at the Planning and Environment committee in October 2011. The initial proposal, as shown in appendix 3, was for the proposed extents to be 30 mph and not part 30 and 40 mph as shown in appendix 1. In response to questions from Members regarding the necessity of extending the 30 mph limit in a southern direction to The Croft at Bellingham, it was stated that due to the sight lines, it was considered signs could be not erected nearer to the south side of the bridge and therefore the scheme had been extended. Due to the precedent which would be set if the scheme at Bellingham was accepted, after discussions Members requested that the scheme at Bellingham be deferred to allow further consideration on the extent of the speed limit alterations.
5. Following the comments from members, the proposals have been amended as shown in appendix 1 to extend the 30 mph speed limit around the bend and introduce a 40 mph speed limit on the approach to the 30 mph. Bellingham Parish Council have strongly opposed the proposed 40 mph speed limit and ask the County Council to reconsider making the proposed limits all 30 mph as initially consulted on in 2011.

## **Conclusion**

6. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making a traffic regulation order. Such an inquiry might enable disputed evidence to be tested under cross-examination and the need for an order to be critically examined by an independent inspector. In this particular case, officers believe that the extensive consultation process and involvement with interested parties, means that such an inquiry is unlikely to bring any fresh information to light and it is therefore recommended that an inquiry is not held.
7. Accordingly, it is recommended to proceed with the introduction of the speed limit alterations in Northumberland, apart from the proposed 40 mph and 30 mph speed limit extension on the B6320 & C144 Bellingham.
8. The initial 30 mph speed limit proposals for Bellingham as shown in appendix 3 were proposed as the existing site restraints made it difficult to meet current County Council speed limit policy. The verge space available was insufficient to site terminal signs and it would be difficult to meet the necessary visibility requirements locating the 30 mph signs close to the bridge. Current policy for village speed limits requires there be a minimum of 3 houses for every 100 metres throughout the extents of the limit, but it is paramount that these density requirements are met at the start of the limit. Given there are 8 properties at the Croft and then a Church, together with the site constraints, it suggested that the 30 mph speed limit be as shown in appendix 3.
9. Given the comments received from Bellingham Parish Council and the difficulties in siting the signs as shown in Appendix 1, it is recommended that the proposals shown in appendix 3 should proceed.

## Background Papers

File Ref: M/GEN/109

### Implications Arising Out of the Report

Policy	None
Finance and value for money	Estimated to be in the region of £32000, the proposals, if approved, will be funded from the Local Transport Plan Budgets
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	Traffic manoeuvres and visibility issues
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Considerations	Motorists will be required to abide by the speed limits. Residents will benefit from lower speeds.
Sustainability	None
Consultation	Emergency Services, Road User Organisations, County Councillor's for the Wards & Parish Councils
Wards	Stocksfield & Broomhaugh, Shilbottle, Pegswood, Corbridge, Kitty Brewster, Bellingham, Bedlington West, Bedlington Central and Cramlington West

## DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Executive Member or Officer(s):**

Deirdre Campbell – Policy Board Member,  
Streetcare and Environment  
Barry Rowland - Corporate Director of Local  
Services

**Subject:**

Proposed speed limit alterations various  
locations in Northumberland

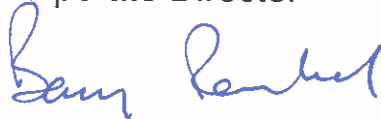
**Consultation**

10 Responses  
9 For  
1 Against

**Decision Taken:**

Given the outcome of the consultation it is  
recommended that the proposed speed limit  
alterations various locations in  
Northumberland should proceed

Signature of Corporate Director



**Date**

03/10/13.

APPENDIX A

CONTRACT DRAWING No. 1 OF 1  
DRAWING SIZE A3

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT



REVISION Drawing Status By Date Rev.

CONTRACT

Client NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 533000

Job Title C272 / C273 BROOMLEY VILLAGE,  
STOCKSFIELD

Drawing Title PROPOSED 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Scales 1:2000

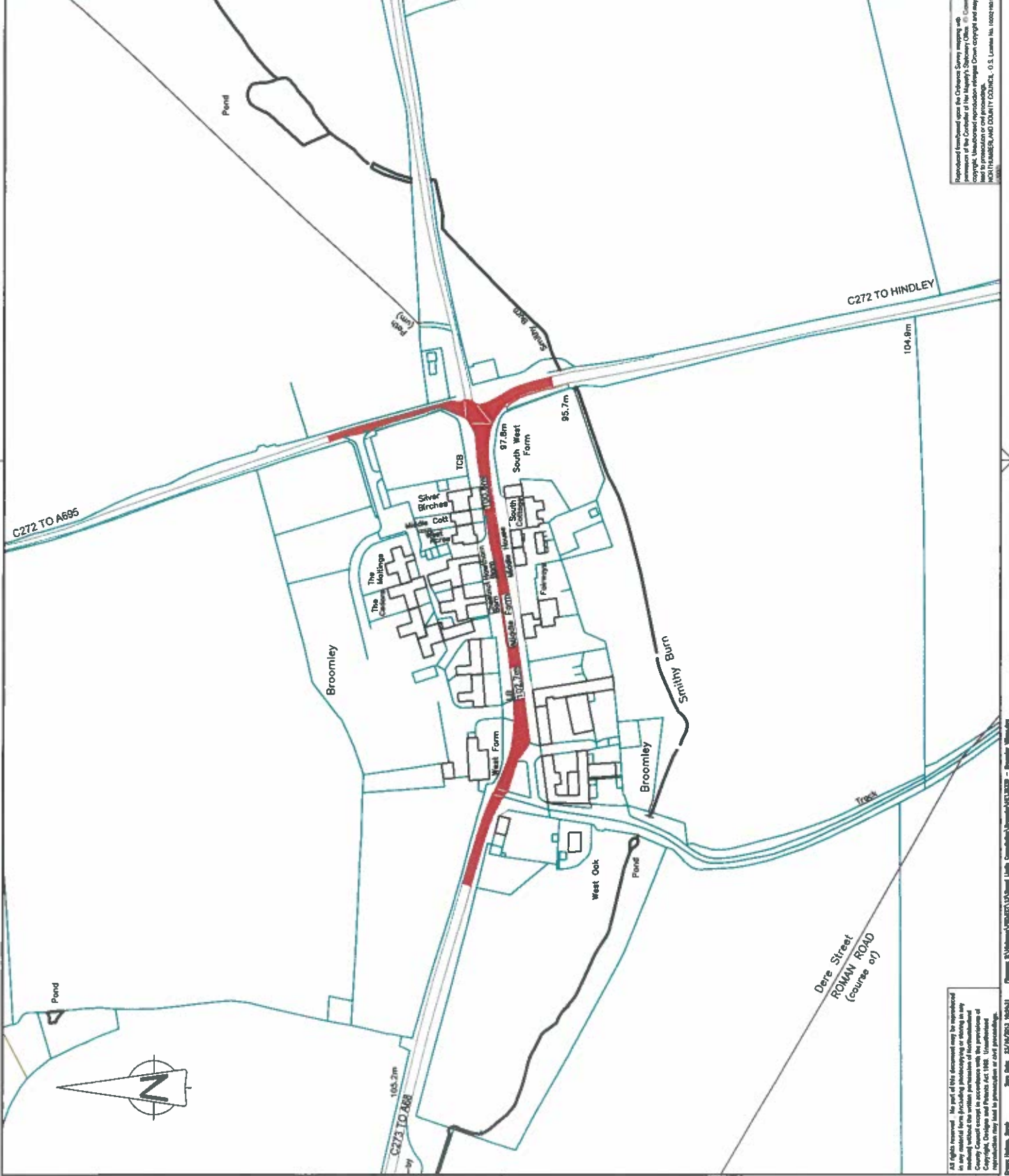
**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Drn S.B Date OCT 2013 Checked K.B Passed J.L

Drawing Number HE139330/01/C273

Rev Negative Number/Job Number/File Number Appendix 1



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CONTRACT 1 OF 1  
DRAWING No. A3

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION



REVISION	By	Date	Rev.

**CONSULTATION**

Client  
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 533000

Job Title  
A193 BEBSIDE / U9709 HATHERY LANE  
JUNCTION, BLYTH

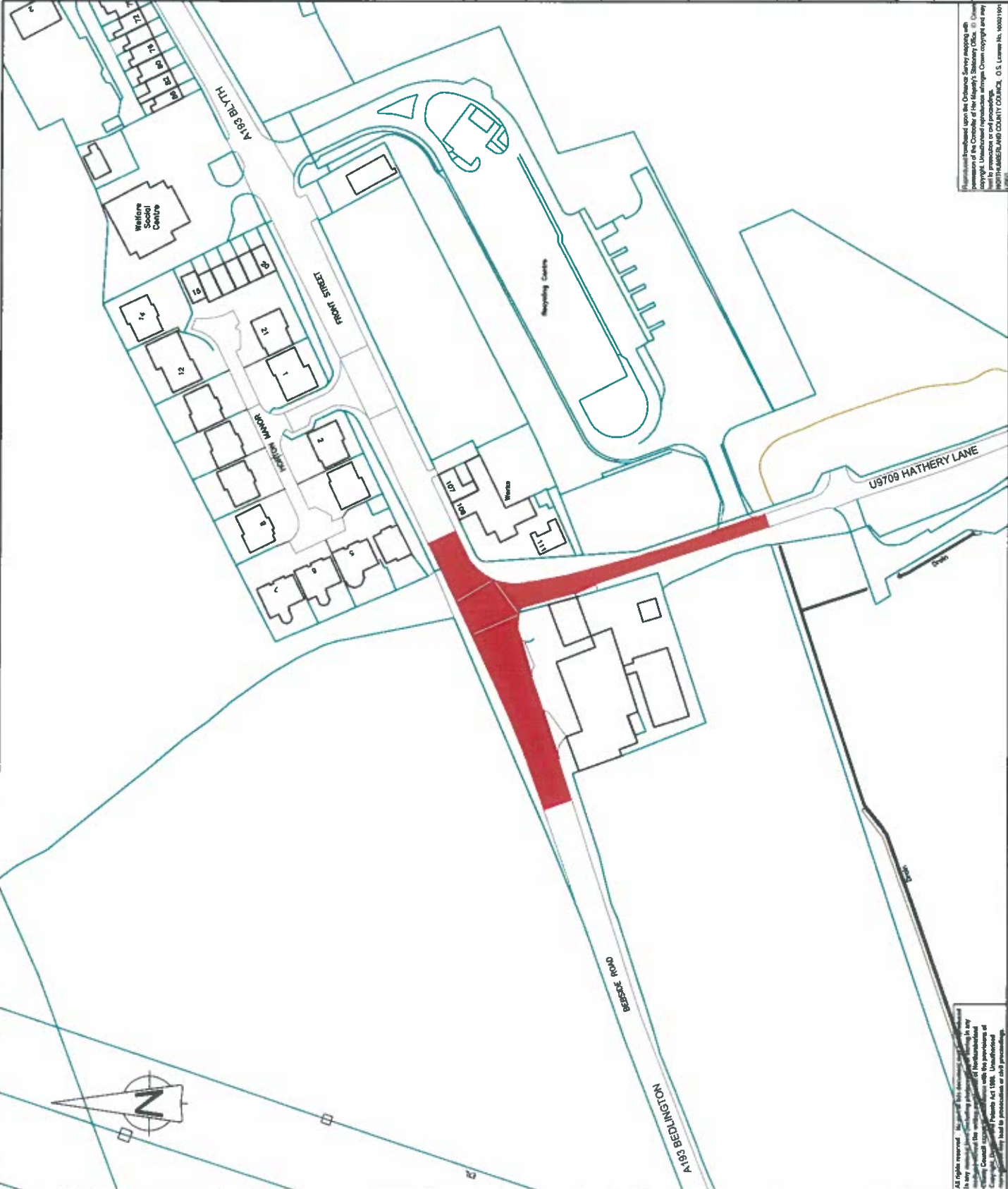
Drawing Title  
PROPOSED 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT  
EXTENSION

Scales 1:1250

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council  
**SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

Drn	S.B	Date	Checked	Passed
		OCT 2013	K.B	J.L

Drawing Number	Rev
HE139327/02/A193	
Negative Number/Job Number/File Number	Rev
Appendix 1	



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CONTRACT No. 1 OF 1  
DRAWING No. A3

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED 40MPH SPEED LIMIT

REVISION	By	Date	Rev.

**CONSULTATION**

Client  
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 533000

Job Title  
B6320 / C199 BELLINGHAM

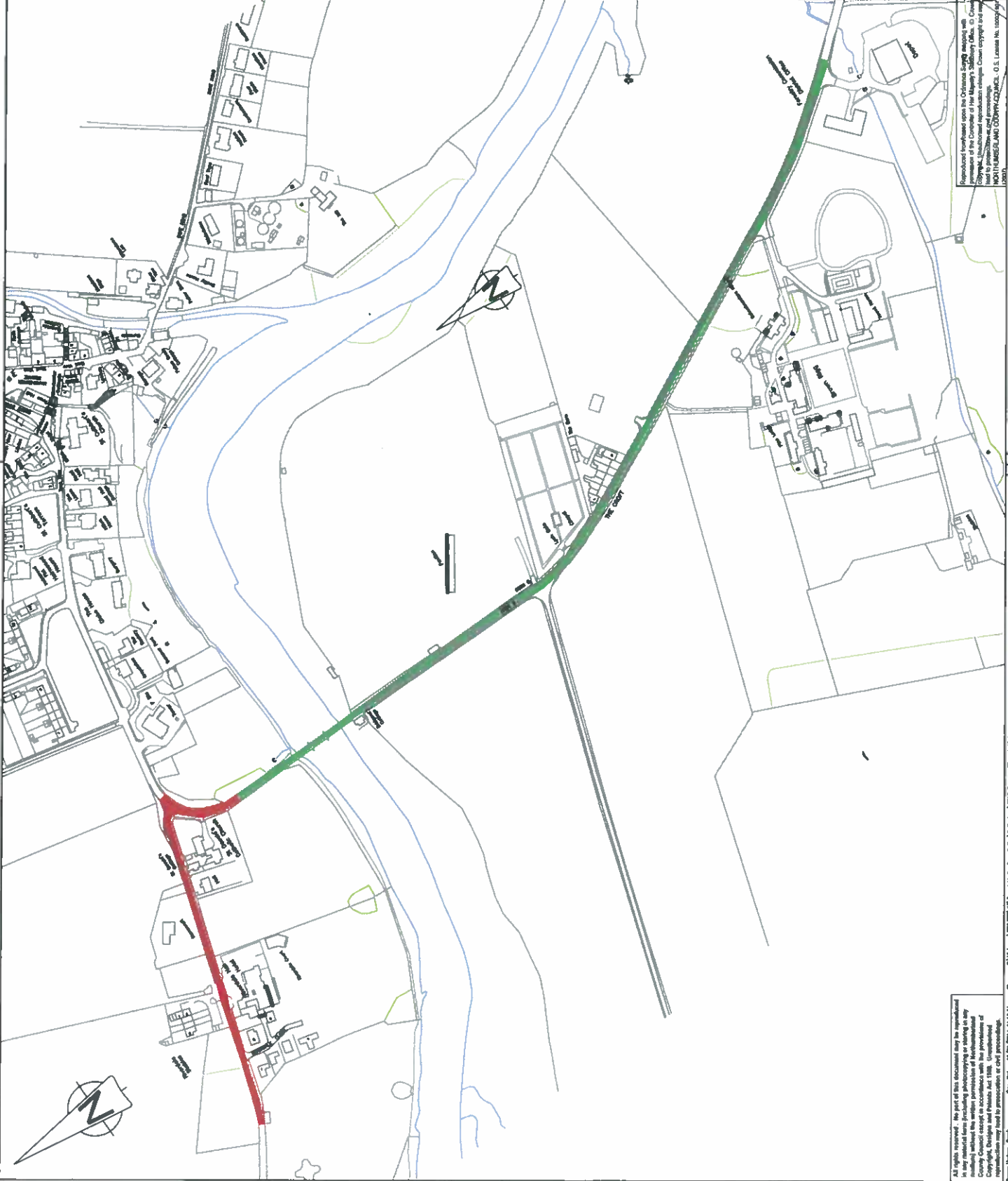
Drawing Title  
PROPOSED 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT  
EXTENSION & 40 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Scales  
**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council  
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Drm	S.B	Date	Checked	Passed	Rev
		2013	J.L	J.L	

Drawing Number  
HE1 39308/B6320

Negative Number/Job Number/File Number  
Appendix 1



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Sheets: 10/17/2014 11:11:54

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Map for publication: 10/17/2014 11:11:54

CONTRACT  
DRAWING No. 1 OF 1  
DRAWING SIZE  
A3

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED  
30MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION



REVISION	By	Date/Rev.

**CONSULTATION**

Client  
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 533000

Job Title  
C390 SWARLAND

Drawing Title  
PROPOSED 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT  
EXTENSION

Scales 1:1000 / 1:25000

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

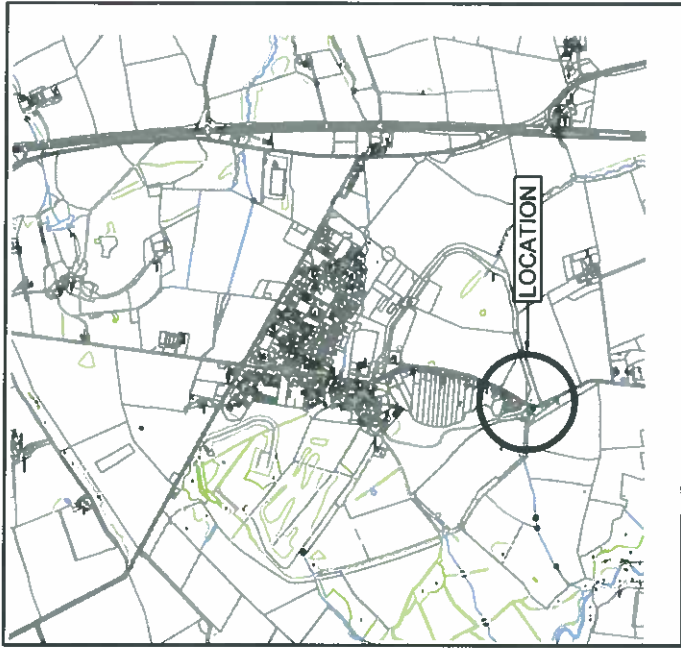
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Drn	S.B	Date	Checked	Passed
		OCT 2013 <td>K.B <td>J.L </td></td>	K.B <td>J.L </td>	J.L

Drawing Number  
HE139329/01/C390

Negative Number/Job Number/File Number  
Appendix 1

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Shea Date: 27/09/2013 10:30:00  
Filename: \\p:\p\100271601\C390\_Swarland\Drawings\HE139329 - Swarland.dwg



CONTRACT 1 OF 1  
DRAWING No. A3

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council

**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED  
40MPH SPEED LIMIT

REVISION Drawing Status By Date Rev.

**CONTRACT**

Client  
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 833000

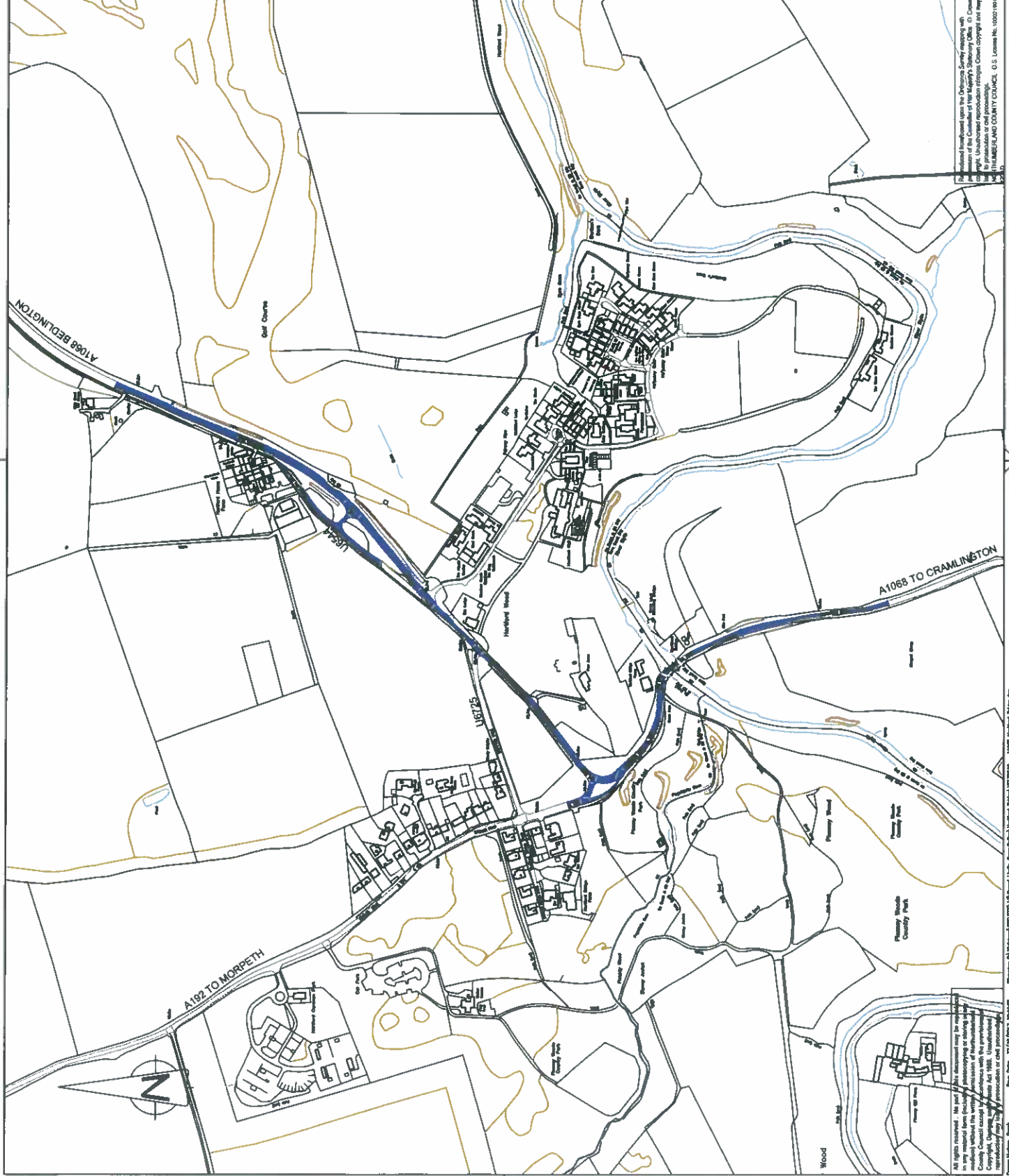
Job Title  
A1068 HARTFORD BRIDGE

Drawing Title  
PROPOSED 40 MPH SPEED LIMIT

Scales 1:5000

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council  
**SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT**

Drn	S.B	Date	Checked	Passed
		OCT 2013	K.B	J.L
Drawing Number HF139512/01/A1068				
Negative Number/Job Number/Flag Number Appendix 1				
Rev				



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# North East Ambulance Service **NHS**

NHS Foundation Trust

**Ambulance Headquarters**

Bernicia House  
Goldcrest Way  
Newburn Riverside  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE15 8NY

Our Ref: PLL/Road 4

Tel: 0191 430 2000

Fax: 0191 430 2086

Your Ref: M/GEN/109

Email: [paul.liversidge@neas.nhs.uk](mailto:paul.liversidge@neas.nhs.uk)

7<sup>th</sup> June 2013

Stefan Bell  
Assistant Engineer: Traffic Safety  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
Northumberland  
NE61 2EF

Dear Stefan,

**RE: Proposed Speed Limits**

Thank you for your correspondence dated 5<sup>th</sup> June 2013 in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal.

I would inform you that as an Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient appointments. I do appreciate however the need for restrictions to improve road safety.

I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.

Yours sincerely

Paul Liversidge  
DIRECTOR OF AMBULANCE OPERATIONS

**Bell, Stefan**

---

**From:** Dale, Anne  
**Sent:** 13 June 2013 09:22  
**To:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Cc:** Bell, Stefan  
**Subject:** RE: [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limits

Dear Sarah,

Thank you for your e.mail and attachments which I welcome. I am quite happy with the consultations on the 30 mph. I did ask Stef Bell if the 30 mph could be extended from Broomley through to the B6309 however he thought that this would not meet legal requirements.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Kind regards

Anne

---

**From:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Sent:** 05 June 2013 11:52  
**To:** Dale, Anne  
**Subject:** [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limits

Hi,

Please find attached a copy of the consultation for the proposed 30mph speed limit on the C272 & C273 Broomley Village, & the proposed 40mph speed limit on the A695 Farnley. If you wish to make any comments please forward them to Stefan Bell.

Regards  
Sarah

Sarah Hudson  
Engineering Assistant  
Project Planning  
Sustainable Transport  
Local Services  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
NE61 2EF  
Tel: 01670 624130  
Fax: 01670 626136

Northumberland County Council have classified this Email as PROTECT

**Bell, Stefan**

---

**From:** Sambrook, Alan  
**Sent:** 05 June 2013 21:02  
**To:** Bell, Stefan  
**Subject:** Longhirst Road

Stefan,

The proposed extended 30 m.p.h. is something I will support.

One question.

The distance from the drive between the two houses and the end of the proposal, is it a distance with enough stopping distance for a car travelling at 50 m.p.h.

I know that travelling at that speed is illegal, past the 30 m.p.h. sign, but cars do travel that road at 50 m.p.h. and above.

Hope you are keeping well

Sam

## Bellingham Parish Council

Clerk : D. Feeney

4 Braeside,  
Falstone,  
Northumberland,  
NE48 1BJ.

12th June 2013

Dear Mr Bell,

### Proposed Speed Limits, B6320/ C199, Bellingham

I refer to your recent letter about the above and drawing HE139308/ B6320.

Members welcome the proposed 30 MPH limit.

However Members ask that the proposed 40 MPH limit on the B6320 is amended to 30 MPH for the following reasons:-

- > the approach to the narrow bridge (which already has priority signs)
- > the entrance to the Cemetery, with hearses and funeral corteges parking as well as visitors
- > the lack of off road parking available to the Croft properties.

Yours sincerely

  
David Feeney.

Mr S Bell  
Assistant Engineer, Sustainable Transport  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
NE61 2EF



**Bell, Stefan**

---

**From:** Lisa Hamlin <lisa.hamlin@onetel.com>  
**Sent:** 08 July 2013 13:56  
**To:** Bell, Stefan  
**Subject:** Proposed Speed Limits - Swarland

Hi Stefan

Following your letter of 5 June re the proposed 30mph speed limit extension to the C390 in Swarland the Parish Council are in full support of this proposal

Regards  
Lisa Hamlin  
Parish Clerk

**Bell, Stefan**

---

**From:** Johnstone, Terry  
**Sent:** 16 July 2013 12:12  
**To:** Bell, Stefan  
**Subject:** Speed limit reduction on A1068

**Importance:** High

Hi Stefan,

As to our earlier conversation and your clarification of the stretch of road to be covered by the 40mph speed limit and the safety concerns of those in the surrounding homes, I can as ward Councillor for that area give you my full support for the proposed reduction.

Yours

Terry

Cllr Terry Johnstone  
Bedlington West Ward  
Chair of Regeneration Working Group

19 Westmorland Ave  
Bedlington  
NE22 6DJ  
07891698040

**Bell, Stefan**

---

**From:** Riddle, John  
**Sent:** 05 June 2013 12:51  
**To:** Bell, Stefan  
**Subject:** RE: [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limit

Re speed limits/ Bellingham

Stefan,

I strongly support the proposed extension of the 30mph speed limit to the west of Bellingham, and I have no objections to the proposed 40mph restriction.

Regards, John Riddle.

---

**From:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Sent:** 05 June 2013 12:19  
**To:** Riddle, John  
**Subject:** [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limit

Hi,

Please find attached a copy of the consultation for the proposed 30mph speed limit extension & the proposed 40mph speed limit on the B6320 & C199 Bellingham. If you wish to make any comments please forward them to Stefan Bell.

Regards  
Sarah

Sarah Hudson  
Engineering Assistant  
Project Planning  
Sustainable Transport  
Local Services  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
NE61 2EF  
Tel: 01670 624130  
Fax: 01670 626136

Northumberland County Council have classified this Email as PROTECT

**Bell, Stefan**

**From:** Bell, Stefan  
**Sent:** 12 June 2013 14:04  
**To:** Davey, Grant  
**Cc:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Subject:** RE: [PROTECT]FW: Consultation - Speed Limit

Hi Councillor Davey,

The County Council received a request from a resident asking if we could extend the 30 mph speed limit to the proposed location. Having assessed the request, the extension of the speed limit would meet current policy, whereby the speed limit should commence at the start of the development, in this case this would be the garage. As with any speed limit or speed limit extension, a traffic regulation order is required and we must go through the formal consultation process.

Thanks

**Stefan Bell**

Transport Projects Officer  
Project Planning Team  
Sustainable Transport  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
NE61 2EF  
Tel : 01670 624131  
Fax : 01670 534216  
Email : [Stefan.Bell@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:Stefan.Bell@northumberland.gov.uk)  
Website : <http://www.northumberland.gov.uk>

---

**From:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Sent:** 11 June 2013 11:29  
**To:** Bell, Stefan  
**Cc:** Davey, Grant  
**Subject:** [PROTECT]FW: Consultation - Speed Limit

Stefan,

Can you please respond.

Cheers  
Sarah

---

**From:** Davey, Grant  
**Sent:** 11 June 2013 11:27  
**To:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Subject:** RE: [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limit

Northumberland County Council have classified this Email as PROTECT

Sarah Hudson  
Engineering Assistant  
Project Planning  
Sustainable Transport  
Local Services  
Northumberland County Council  
County Hall  
Morpeth  
NE61 2EF  
Tel: 01670 624130  
Fax: 01670 626136

Regards  
Sarah

Please find attached a copy of the consultation for the proposed 30mph speed limit extension on the A193 Beside. If you wish to make any comments please forward them to Stefan Bell.

Hi,

**From:** Hudson, Sarah  
**Sent:** 05 June 2013 12:27  
**To:** Davey, Grant  
**Subject:** [PROTECT]Consultation - Speed Limit

Grant

Regards

Can you explain what the reasoning behind this extension is please?

Sarah,

CONTRACT No. 1 of 1  
DRAWING No. A3



**NOTES**

EXTENTS OF PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION

REVISION	By	Date	Rev.

**CONSULTATION**

Client  
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE61 2EF Tel. 01670 533000

Job Title  
B6320 / C199 BELLINGHAM

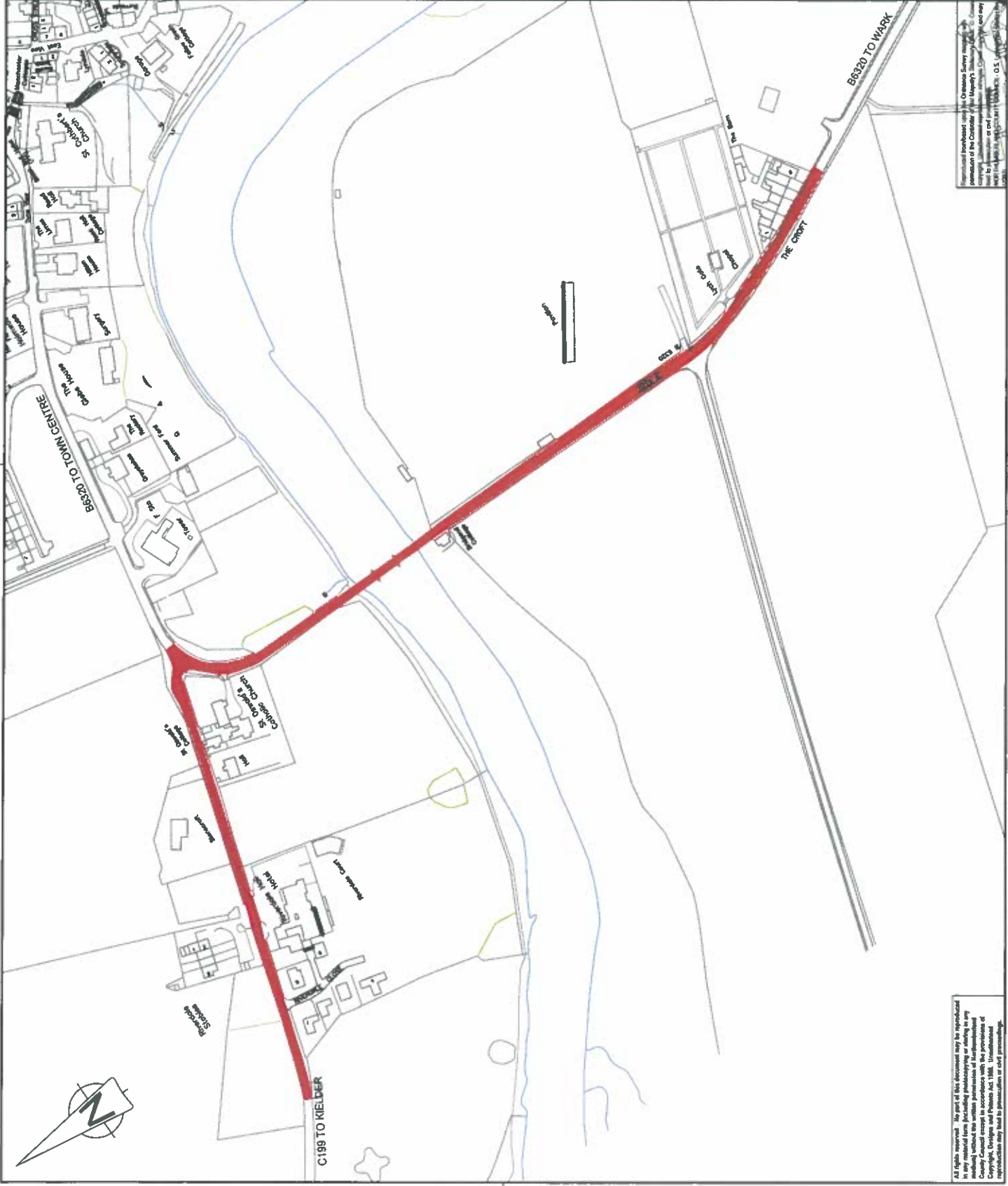
Drawing Title  
PROPOSED 30 MPH SPEED LIMIT EXTENSION

Scales 1:2500



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		OCT 2013					

Drawing Number HE139308/01/B6320  
Negative Number/Job Number/File Number Appendix 3



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Page: 1 of 1

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