

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR – LOCAL SERVICES & HOUSING

PROPOSED C407 LAVEROCK HALL ROAD BLTYH – EXTENSION OF 30 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF DRIVING

30th November 2015

Purpose of Report

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise and assessment regarding the proposed extension of a 30 mph speed restriction and amendment to the prohibition of driving (except buses) on the C407 Laverock Hall Road Blyth.

Recommendations

It is recommended that in view of the consultation and assessment, the scheme to introduce the proposed extension of a 30 mph speed restriction and amendment to the prohibition of driving (except buses) on the C407 Laverock Hall Road Blyth, should proceed as proposed.

Key Issues

- There is a new residential development with access onto the C407 Laverock Hall Road.
- 2) The scheme is fund from the developer of the residential development
- 3) County Councillor Deirdre Campbell is in support of this proposal.

PROPOSED C407 LAVEROCK HALL ROAD BLTYH – EXTENSION OF 30 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF DRIVING

BACKGROUND

- 1. The proposed changes are due to a recent planning application and to facilitate future development in the area i.e. amendment of the prohibition of driving restriction (buses only) on the approach road to the development (this will maintain the existing restrictions, but will enable access to the new development) and the extension of the 30 mph limits on the approach to the development (to further aid traffic safety in a extended residential environment).
- These restrictions were the subject of a consultation letter to approximately 26 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. No existing houses or businesses directly adjoin this proposed development.
- 3. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix A)
- 4. It should be noted, an error was identified by Councillor Campbell in the original consultation letter (see Appendix B). This was immediately cancelled and replaced. Therefore the responses received during this period were not considered in this report.

CONSULTATION

- 5. The consultation exercise ended on the 19th October 2015 and responses were received from 2 consultees with 1 in favour and 0 against the proposals. One consultee expressed no overall preference. A summary of these responses is attached as Appendix C.
- 6. Although there was limited response to the consultation, which is not unusual, Council Officers associated with this development consider the restrictions will improve road safety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7. From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is reached. In these particular circumstances, there are understandable objections to the development, rather than the traffic safety amendment for which consultation was required. It is therefore recommended that the scheme to the extension of a 30 mph speed restriction and amendment to the prohibition of driving (except buses) on the C407 Laverock Hall Road Blyth should proceed as proposed.
- 8. The Council has the power to hold a public inquiry before making any 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.
- Accordingly it is recommended that the Director of Local Services & Housing agrees to proceed with the introduction of the following Traffic Regulation Order.

County of Northumberland (Laverock Hall Road Blyth) (Prohibition of Driving and Revocation) Order 2015 – (TROM_006)

Northumberland County Council (C407 Laverock Hall Road Blyth 30 MPH Speed Restriction) Order 2015 – (TROM 007)

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Road Traffic Act 2004 Local Government Act 2000 File Ref: RN140074

APPENDIX INDEX

Appendix A - Consultation Documents

Appendix B – Consultation Documents (Cancelled) Appendix C – Summary of Consultation Responses

IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy

None

Finance and value for money

Scheme will be financed the developers

Human Resources

None

Property

None

Equalities

30 mph Restriction will aid road safety.

Risk Assessment

Extended residential area

Crime & Disorder

None

Customer Considerations

Proposals will contribute to the flow of

traffic, aid safety, reduce vehicle emissions

Sustainability

None

Consultation

Blyth Town Council, the emergency services, all affected residents/businesses (none) and interested road user organisations were consulted together with

the County Councillor for the area.

Wards

Newsham

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Cabinet Member or Officer(s):	Director of Local Services & Housing	
Subject:	PROPOSED C407 LAVEROCK HALL ROAD BLTYH – EXTENSION OF 30 MPH SPEED RESTRICTION AND PROHIBITION OF DRIVING	
Consultation	2 Responses 1 For 0 Against 1 Neither	
Decision Taken:	Given the outcome of the consultation, comments received and Officer assessment, it is recommended that the above scheme should be provided.	
Signature of Director of Local Services & Housing		
Date		

Appendix A



Northumberland County Council

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF

• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

Our Ref:

RN140074

Your Ref:

Contact: Te

Terry Luck

Direct Line:

01670 622588

E-mail:

HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Monday 21st September 2015

Dear Sir / Madam

AMENDMENT to Proposed 30mph Speed Limit Extension and Amendment of Prohibition of Driving (Buses Only) Laverock Hall Road Blyth

Please accept my apologies, an omission was identified in the consultation letter sent out on the Thursday 27th August 2015. The revised proposal is detailed below and on the attached plan.

I am writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the following proposal:

To introduce a 30mph Speed Limit Extension and an Amendment of Prohibition of Driving (Buses Only) at the following location; (as detailed in the attached plan). **Laverock Hall Road, Blyth**

The proposed changes are due to a recent planning application and to facilitate future development in the area i.e. amendment of the prohibition of driving restriction (buses only) on the approach road to the development (this will maintain the existing restrictions, but will enable access to the new development) and the extension of the 30 mph limits on the approach to the development (to further aid traffic safety in a residential environment).

The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. It should be stressed that this is a genuine consultation and that comments received will be carefully considered.

Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is Monday 19th October 2015. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/.

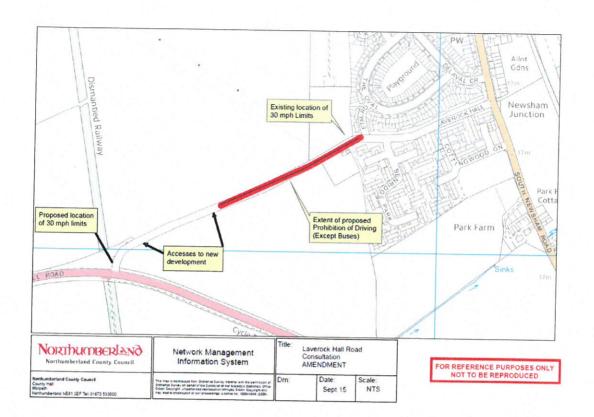
I would urge you to take the opportunity to comment on this important matter as any decision taken will be based upon the responses received from residents who take time to return the consultation form.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Terry Luck

Programme Officer



Northumberland County Council

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Our Ref:

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Your Ref:

Terry Luck

Contact: Direct Line:

01670 622588

E-mail:

HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk

Thursday 27th August 2015

Dear Sir / Madam

Proposed 30mph Speed Limit Extension and Removal of Prohibition of Driving Laverock Hall Road Blyth

I am writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 (as amended) to formally ask for the comments on the following proposal:

To introduce a 30mph Speed Limit Extension and Removal of Prohibition of Driving at the following location; (as detailed in the attached plan).

Laverock Hall Road, Blyth

The proposed changes are due to a recent planning application and to facilitate future development in the area i.e. removal of the prohibition of driving restriction on the approach road to the development and the extension of the 30 mph limits on the approach to the development.

The County Council is seeking your views on the proposals and a freepost response form is attached to facilitate the consultation process. It should be stressed that this is a genuine consultation and that comments received will be carefully considered.

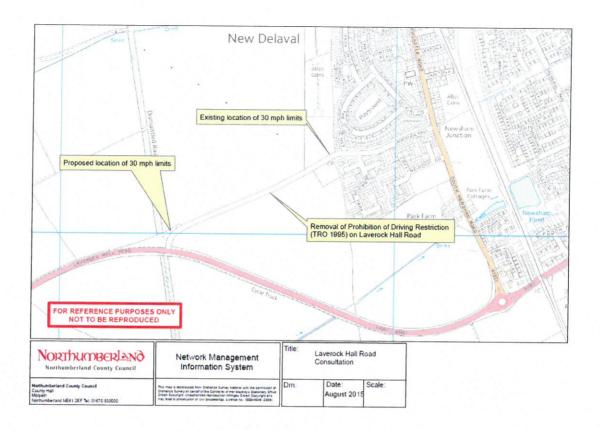
Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is Thursday 24th September 2015. If you wish to respond to this consultation online, please visit the web address http://trafficconsult.northumberland.gov.uk/.

I would urge you to take the opportunity to comment on this important matter as any decision taken will be based upon the responses received from residents who take time to return the consultation form.

I thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours faithfully Terry Luck

Programme Officer



Appendix C

FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
1			We appreciate the facility for us to have input to the consultation and for the amendments to the proposals as a result, which we fully support in their amended form.
		1	Thank you for your letter dated 21st September 2015 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 would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme.
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