

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES

PROPOSED 20mph SPEED LIMIT – LYSDON AVENUE / MELTON DRIVE AREA, NEW HARTLEY

Purpose of report:

To consider the results of the public consultation exercise regarding the proposed introduction of a 20mph speed limit in the Lysdon Avenue and Melton Drive area of New Hartley.

Recommendations:

It is recommended that in view of the consultation exercise, the 20mph speed limit should be introduced as proposed.

Key issues

- 1) Scheme being funded by Councillor Dungworth.
- 2) The scheme will improve road safety in the area as the 20mph speed limit will reduce vehicle speeds.
- 3) Supported by Local Councillor, Parish Council, and the vast majority of residents who responded to the consultation.

Report Author

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BACKGROUND

- 1) Concerns have been raised by local residents about excessive vehicular speed and road safety in the Lysdon Avenue and Melton Drive area of New Hartley. In view of this, Councillor Dungworth requested officers consult residents on the possible introduction of a 20mph speed limit.
- 2) These proposals were the subject of a consultation exercise that involved the delivery of a consultation letter to approximately 330 households, and approximately 30 statutory consultees, including the emergency services and various disabled and transport associations/organisations. A plan showing the proposals is attached together with a copy of the consultation letter (see Appendix 1).

CONSULTATION

- 3) The consultation exercise ended on 1st December 2014, and responses were received from 83 households, with 76 in favour and 7 against the proposals. A summary of these responses is attached as Appendix 2.
- 4) North East Ambulance Service was the only statutory consultee who responded to the consultation, they supported the proposals, however they indicated that response times may be affected.

IN FAVOUR

- 5) Whilst indicating their support of the proposals on the response form provided, the following comments were made:-
 - Scheme cannot be introduced soon enough.
 - Scheme should be introduced in the whole village.
 - Physical Traffic Calming Measures are needed.
 - Parking problems in the area need to be investigated.
 - Pedestrian Crossing needed on main road through village at shops.
- 6) In response to these comments, where appropriate, requests have been added to the Directory of Requests for consideration in a future Local Transport Plan (LTP) Programme.

OBJECTIONS

- 7) Whilst objecting to the proposals on the response form provided, the following comments were made:-
 - Scheme is a waste of money
 - There are no speeding problems in the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8) From the outset, the County Council has endeavoured to respond positively to local concerns raised in this area and it is inevitable that some sections of the community will be dissatisfied with whichever decision is

reached. The results of the consultation exercise show that the majority of residents who responded support the proposals. It is therefore recommended that the 20mph Speed Limit is introduced as proposed.

- 9) 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.

APPENDIX INDEX

Appendix 1 – Consultation Letter and Plan

Appendix 2 – Summary of Consultation Responses

BACKGROUND PAPERS

File Ref: M/GEN/124(F)

IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy:	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed from Councillor Dungworth's Local Members Small Schemes Budget
Human Resources:	None
Property	None
Equalities	None
Risk Assessment	Residential area, route to schools, speeding traffic and associated visibility issues.
Crime & Disorder	Scheme will reduce vehicle speeds and promote a safer environment.
Customer Considerations	Residents will benefit from reduced vehicle speeds. The measures may marginally affected response times of Emergency Services.
Sustainability Consultation	None Seaton Valley Parish Council, the emergency services, all affected residents and interested road user organisations were consulted together with the County Councillor for the area.
Wards	Hartley

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Executive Member and Executive Director:

Executive Director of Local Services, Barry Rowland
Executive Member, Ian Swithenbank, Streetcare and Environment

Subject:

Proposed 20mph Speed Limit – Lysdon Avenue & Melton Drive Area, New Hartley.

Consultation:

83 Responses
76 For
7 Against

Decision Taken:

To approve the proposed 20mph speed limit in Lysdon Avenue & Melton Drive Area, New Hartley.

Signature of Executive Director



Date

19/03/15

APPENDIX 1 – COPY OF CONSULTATION LETTER AND PLAN

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF
• Web: www.northumberland.gov.uk

The Occupier

Our Ref: M/Gen/124/C
Your Ref:
Contact: Mr Neil Snowdon
Direct Line: 01670 624128
Fax: 01670 626136
E-mail: HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk
Monday 20th October 2011

Dear Sir / Madam

Proposed 20mph Speed Limit – Lysdon Avenue / Melton Drive area, New Hartley

Concerns have been raised by local residents about traffic speeds and road safety in the above area. Councillor Dungworth has also expressed her concerns and has agreed to fund the introduction of a 20mph Speed Limit at the Lysdon Avenue and Melton Drive areas of New Hartley subject to favourable consultation with residents.

I am therefore writing in accordance with Regulation 5 of the Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1998 (as amended) to formally ask for your comments on the proposal to introduce a 20mph speed limit on the Lysdon Avenue and Melton Drive areas of New Hartley as shown on the attached plan.

The following streets will be governed by the 20mph speed limit:- Lysdon Avenue, Gloria Avenue, Seaburn View, Seaburn Avenue, Wansbeck Grove, Alston Road, Maple Court, Mountford Road, Merrington Close, Mountrose Close, Melton Drive, Hastings Gardens, Hastings Terrace and Apple Court.

The start of the limit will be identified by means of 20mph terminal signs. 20mph repeater signs will be introduced at intervals throughout the extent of the proposed limit.

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.

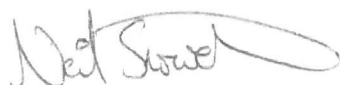
Regrettably, it is not possible to reply to individual comments, but you may wish to note that comments may be included in a Decision Report, to the Executive Director of Local Services and may be available for public inspection. The closing date for any comments you may wish to make is Monday 1st December 2014. 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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Neil Snowden', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Neil Snowden
Transport Projects Officer

CONTRACT 1 OF 1
DRAWING No. A3

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council

KEY: —
EXTENTS OF PROPOSED
20MPH SPEED LIMIT
600mm TERMINAL SIGNS
LOCATED ON NEW POST
300mm REPEATER SIGNS
LOCATED ON EXISTING
LIGHTING COLUMNS
20MPH ROUNDEL ROAD
MARKING

REVISION
Drawing Status By Date Rev.
CONSULTATION

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

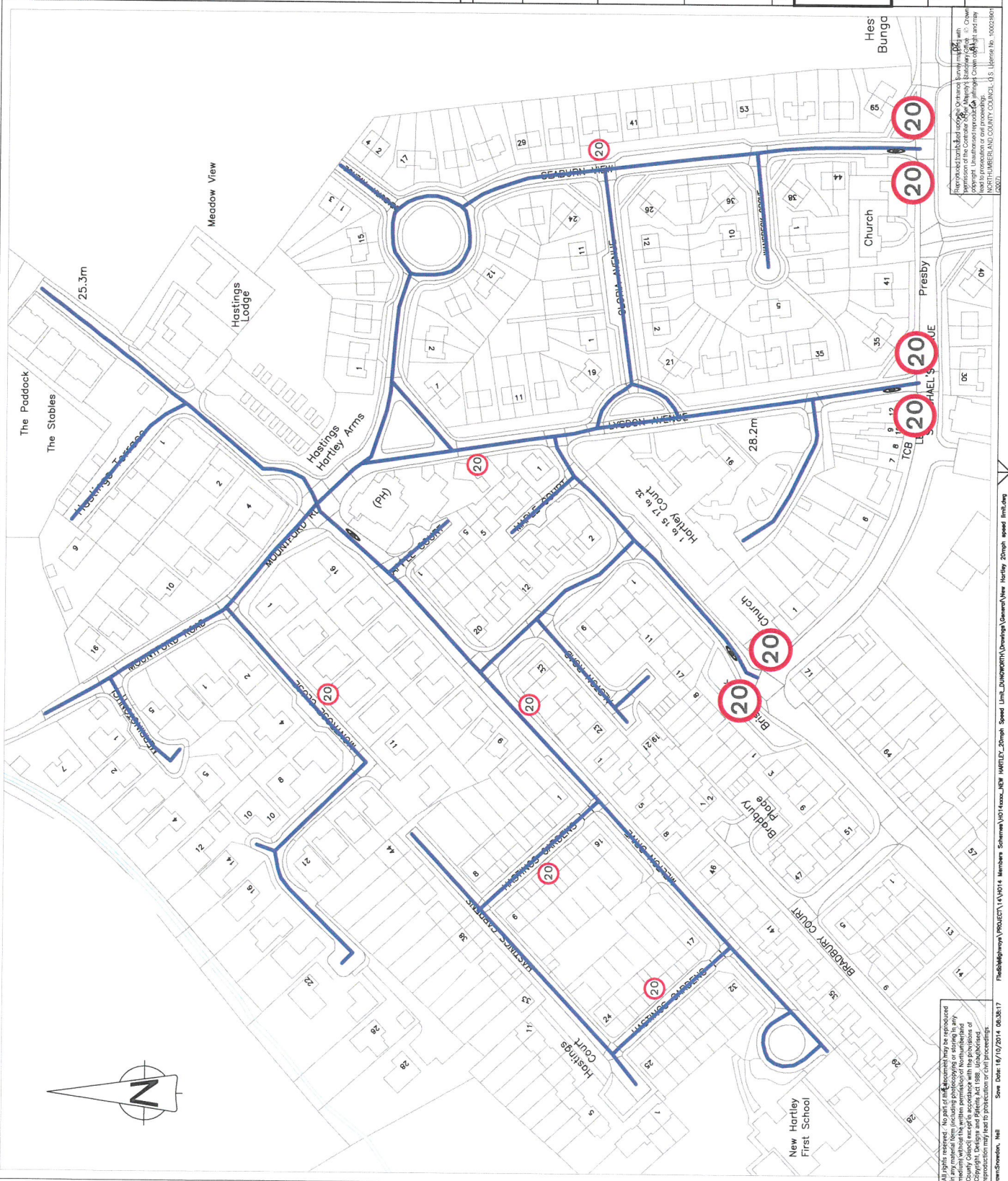
Job Title
LYSDON AVENUE / MELTON
DRIVE AREAS, NEW HARTLEY

Drawing Title
PROPOSED 20MPH SPEED LIMIT

Scales SCALE

Northumberland
Northumberland County Council
SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT

Drn	Date	Checked	Passed	Rev
NS	OCT 14			HO14xxxx
Drawing Number				Negative Number/Job Number/File Number
				Rev



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APPENDIX 2 - SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Post Code	FOR	AGAINST	NEITHER	Other Relevant Comments
NE25 0ST	1			We support the introduction of a 20mph zone in New Hartley. However do not support additional road safety elements such as speed bumps or chicane. These can damage car suspension even at very low speed. In addition, we wonder why the 20 mph limit is only being applied to this small section of New Hartley.
NE25 0SB	1			I would welcome implementation of speed management in the village. There has been a rise in the speed of traffic in Seaburn View recently. we need to remind certain people that we are a village where children play in the streets.
		1		I have lived in New Hartley, for over 5 years. In all of that time I can honestly say that I have never witnessed any speeding traffic or indeed anything else that would necessitate a 20mph speed limit and a multitude of signs and metal posts, which would be a total blot on the village landscape. Indeed in Maple Court and many of the other cul-de-sacks, the streets are so small it would be difficult to get out of its gear. Even on roads like Lysdon Avenue, Bristol Street, St Michaels Avenue, Gloria Avenue and Seaburn View, the amount of on street parking prevents any speed excess and makes every driver take care. One gas engineer even leaves his "Northern Gas Networks" van parked permanently half on and half off the pavement on Lysdon Avenue, adjacent to Hartley court and he doesn't even live on Lysdon Avenue. The van makes a natural anti speeding bollard, as do all the other cars parked on Lysdon Avenue and St Michaels Avenue near the Church and shops. I conclude by saying that this idea is one of the most ludicrous I have ever heard, as well as being a total waste of money and a ruination of the ambience of the village. Unless of course there have been a large number of recorded traffic deaths and serious accidents to warrant such a measure.
				As far as I am concerned, the only traffic problem the village has, is with the double parking near the traffic chicane where Bristol Street joins Double row, which causes problems for the buses and other large vehicles trying to pass by each other. I would appreciate you registering my very strong objection to this proposal. I understand that this proposal has not been initiated by the Highways department and will make my objections known to Councillor Dungworth.
NE25 0RX	1			Yellow no parking on shop corner.
NE25 0ST	1			Very good this should have been done 20 years ago when we first complained.
NE25 0EW	1			Cars should be cleared from Front of shops - can not see traffic coming. Difficult for old people.
NE25 0RN	1			20 mile limit should be throughout the village.

NE25 ORN	1			I would welcome a 20mph speed limit in the proposed streets whole heartedly. I personally feel its long over due, particularly on Melton Drive on the approach to the first school. I regularly witness speeding motorists on this stretch, which also becomes quite congested at the start and end of the school day with parents dropping children off and picking up. I don't know if it would be possible, but a 20mph speed limit throughout the residential streets over the entire of New Hartley would greatly improve the safety of children and the elderly in the village.
NE25 ORN	1			Could it be possible to include some speed bumps near the school I.E. Melton Drive - even some staff from the school plus delivery drivers to the school go to fast - who is going to enforce this speed limit? As we see a police presents in the village once in a blue moon - we used to see a pcso in the village some time ago but not a thing now?
NE20 ORF		1		Whilst I fully support safety and safe driving measures in our village I have many doesn't be the effectiveness or these proposals. I believe that with current traffic congestion/car parking issues in most of the mentioned roads/streets it is almost hands to excess 20mph. However, for those drivers who do drive too fast in these areas I doubt that the installation of 20 mph posts would prevent them to do otherwise. Perhaps a visible police presence at random times would dissuade some of the drivers (which can include parents on the school run, and it has to be said some teachers), to be more safety minded. I do not believe that the cost or installing the terminal signs and the introduction or even more street furniture will contribute to a safer environment in New Hartley.
NE25 OST	1			
NE25 OTA	1			
NE25 OTE	1			
NE25 ORY	1			When you come into New Hartley from Double Row all the cars from the new houses on the left park on the main road this is very dangerous and may cause an accident where someone may be killed or badly injured. The people in these houses all have garages behind there houses, why not put double yellow lines on this part of the road and make them park at the back of their houses. 20mph is a great idea but parking on the main road is a very dangerous practice if the speed limit is 20mph for safety parking at their garages will make this road safe as well.
NE25 OSF	1			
NE25 OTQ	1			This is a good idea and I support it, However, the waste of money on the ridiculous chicane on the main road up to Seaton Delaval is a disgrace and should be taken out!! Instead, speed limit signs should be erected along this road along with double yellow lines in some places. This would be much more effective!!
NE25 OSU	1			Double Row, Bristol St and St Michaels Ave are the roads people speed on the most.
NE25 OTB	1			
NE25 ORN	1			Good Idea
NE25 OTF	1			We are in favour and also think speed humps or other traffic calming measures should be installed as well, to ensure people adhere to the limit.
	1			

NE25 0TF	1			
NE25 0RD	1			
NE25 0TA	1			Much more sensible than previous proposal for ridiculous speed humps. Almost impossible to drive faster owing to all the badly parked vehicles.
NE25 0NX	1			
NE25 0RD	1			The proposal is worthwhile but merely scratches the surface of the issues in New Hartley. I am totally in favour of the proposal, however it is already quite difficult to go much above 20mph on many of the proposed restricted routes. The main issue of concern is the route through the village along St Michaels Avenue and Bristol Street. Both traffic and pedestrians heavily use this corridor. Children attending New Hartley First School regularly cross this road and children travelling to Seaton Sluice Middle School re prominent each morning and afternoon. It is a major bus route, often heavily congested with parked cars which, at times, does little to deter motorists driving too fast through our village.
NE25 0SF	1			
	1			
NE25 0RF	1			A maximum speed limit of 20mph is certainly necessary for the streets referred to in your letter. We take this opportunity to draw your attention to another hazard within New Hartley road network. Prior to the construction of a chicane, at the Western end of Bristol Street, many motorists were speeding into the village and overtaking vehicles, which were parked on the inner curve of the road. This greatly increased the chance of them having 'head-on' collisions with vehicles leaving the village. The chicane has improved the situation. Unfortunately, in contravention of the chicanes' signage, incompetent motorists are still failing to 'give way' to vehicles leaving the village. Instead, they hurry though the chicane and overtake the parked cars. This again results in great risk of them colliding with vehicles leaving the village. To improve safety at this location, we suggest the painting of 'double yellow lines;, on the inner road curve, from the chicane and continuing beyond the entrance of Dorchester Court, to the bus shelter.
NE25 0GW	1			
NE25 0GW	1			
NE25 0RF	1			Who is going to police it, and who is going to enforce it? This is long overdue.
NE25 0SU	1			We have lived in New Hartley for over 30 years now and have looked after our grandchildren and now great granddaughter. We are disappointed that there has not been consideration given to pedestrian crossings at shops to park area of club at Main road leading to school. Also cars race through the village and cameras or speed bumps would help. The new 'obstacle' at the brambles entrance makes no difference to speeding through the village.
NE25 0GW	1			I feel this is long overdue. The speed some cars and even motorbikes go is unbelievable. I wont say everyone does this but quite a lot do. It is a case of an accident waiting to happen. Not only with the children but also the elderly. So I am all for the 20 mph limit. I only hope people will take notice of this. But I very much doubt they will. we will have to wait and see

	1			
	1			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.
NE25 0TF	1			Although I am unaware of a speed problem, I am happy to support the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in the streets get set in your proposal. Had speed bumps on the road been proposed I would have voted against the proposal, as experience of many roads around our area which have these bumps, I believe are a real hazard for damage to cars, even when staying within the speed limit.
NE25 0RD	1			I agree to this proposal with the understanding that I fully oppose the erection of sleeping policemen/road humps along any stretch of highway outside of my property boundaries.
NE25 0RP	1			Would it be possible to think about a speed restriction on St Michaels Avenue from St Michaels church to Hester Gardens.
NE25 0SF	1			
NE25 0GW	1			
NE25 0RN	1			With reference to Hastings Gardens, this is a one way system and we feel it would benefit more from having two signs at the entrance rather than the present plan. Also, Melton Drive is particularly bad for speeding with traffic going to the school, and we feel a large sign rather than the proposed small one would be better, with the road markings at the school end.
NE25 0TA		1		No noticeable observations of speeding in the area. Have lived here 25 years. Money would be better spent on creating layby parking on the main road through the village. Also on widening the east road into the village by the telephone exchange, where if passing a double decker bus you have to mount the pavement.
NE25 0SD	1			
NE25 0SB	1			Sooner the better.
NE25 0SB	1			I am aware of the amount of traffic especially down Seaburn View
NE25 0GW	1			
NE25 0ST	1			Happy to support the reduced speed limit and would only have one suggestion which would be to have the limit at lower than 20 mph. We live in Aston Road and the speed of some cars up our road, Lysdon Avenue and Melton Drive is sometimes frightening. Anyone crossing the road wouldn't stand a chance of moving out of the way, however a reduction in the limit will hopefully provide a reminder for the small minority of 'speedy' drivers.
NE25 0RN	1			
NE25 0RP	1			
NE25 0SB	1			I have ticked yes to Lysdon and Melton I live on Gloria Avenue and don't feel it is needed.
NE25 0GW	1			
NE25 0RY	1			
NE25 0RD	1			
NE25 0SD	1			

NE25 ORN	1			
NE25 OTQ	1			Fabulous idea, we support this fully. Traffic driving down mountford road to the farm track is getting faster and faster! Its only a matter of time before someone is hurt, either a person, horse or dog! The proposed 20mph cannot come soon enough.
NE25 OTE	1			Excellent Idea
NE25 OTB		1		Complete waste of money and effort as the proposals will not address any real or perceived problem of speeding on these roads. The proposals show a complete lack of understanding of the technical aspects of appropriate traffic management proposals. Examination of current national crash data shows 3 child pedestrians casualties in 4 years on Bristol Street/ St Michaels Avenue compared with none in the last 10 years within the area concerned. Please address road safety issue where people are getting injured. National guidance is that 20 mph speed limits are most appropriate where speeds are already low (IE no speeding) below 24 MPH. Evaluation of one of the largest 20mph limit zones shows that average speeds were only reduced by 0.5 mph. Largest impact was on accidents - but you cant get lower than 0!!
NE25 OSB	1			Speed bumps would be beneficial in some areas i.e.. Lysdon - Seaburn View junction as cars speed around that corner and there are a lot of children who play in that area.
NE25 OST	1			I would welcome the introduction of a 20MPH speed limit in this area. I object to 'road humps'; a few years ago, as I didn't see them as an answer to speed problems. I see this solution as a far better alternative.
NE25 OTB	1			As a resident of Mountford Road I really approve the proposed speed limit. However, I am wondering how it will be enforced. The traffic down our road at times is frightening. People who walk their dogs and children frequently dice with death when coming out of the woods. At harvest times huge farm machinery bomb up the road with no thought for the residents, anyone hit by the huge wheels would be killed outright.
NE25 ORP	1			More speed bumps needed as we have a lot of speeding cars on nights and weekend, young lads in general, even in back streets of Bristol Street and Glorster Street as my father lived there, not just young people speeding in back lanes, please supply more road bumps before someone is hurt.
NE25 ORX	1			
NE25 OTA	1			Please do not install speed bumps - they are a menace.
NE25 OTB	1			
NE25 ORX		1		Make the whole village a 20mph zone. Only two signs necessary. Most roads you are proposing don't have a problem due to high levels of parked cars. The main road through Hartley needs to be slowed down, therefore making the whole village 20 would be an easier option.
NE25 ORN	1			No objection to proposal 15-20MPH is what I travel at around these streets anyway

NE25 0ST	1	<p>I don't want our village further spoilt with signs telling us the obvious. Cant understand concerns about speeding as the volume of cars on our streets make this impossible at most times. The problem with road safety is the volume particularly on Double Row at the top of the estate with all the trade vehicles blocking the roads. trying to get off the estate is a nightmare. when you finally reach end of the estate the mini roundabout is a joke. you take your life in your hands turning right as cars speed from both sides and vision impaired due to bend in road. this has got worse over the years, especially as you have surrounded our village by additional estates. and now you want to extend this problem. with the biggest addition ever. its a joke. the whole village will come to a standstill and the very essence of why I moved here over 20 years ago will be gone. don't tell us this will provide jobs - which will only be temporary anyway - but we will have to live with the consequences for years to come. so no I do not want to look out my window to road signs telling me something I know. so save your (our) money.</p>
NE25 0RD	1	<p>Living so near to New Hartley First School where very young children pass it is a concern when some drivers go at some speed. So I think the proposed 20mph speed limit would be a very good idea. Also the other areas in New Hartley.</p>
NE25 10DG	1	<p>This is a response from Seaton Valley Council and the councillors are fully supporting this proposal.</p>
NE25 0ST	1	<p>Village residents know to drive slowly around all streets. We do not want eyesore signs on every corner it is a village not an industrial estate. Keep new Hartley as a village the council seem to be determined to destroy it.</p>

				<p>Speed of traffic on Lysdon Ave and surrounding roads.</p> <p>1: The main road down through the estate (Bristol street and Lysdon Avenue) is quite wide so its treated like a main road yet small children play on it. These roads should be fitted with a physical traffic slowing measures such as speed bumps and with a designated, safe crossing point for pedestrians. 2: The speed limit of 30mph shouldn't be the same in a housing estate where children play, as a road with no houses on the road to East Cramlington where there is nothing but conifer trees. 3: Cars repeatedly don't slow down when going round the corner outside the pub. Quite often you see the suspension dipping as they going too fast. 4: Speed bumps should be fitted at least all the way down the Lysdon Ave from the Junction outside the Community centre to the pub. 5: The speed limit is currently 30mph quite obviously people are drifting above that so lowering it to 20mph won't necessarily slow them down. Physical measures needed such speed bumps and chicane for safe crossing. 6: The entire area of housing estate should be lowered to 20mph. Access road outside Lysdon Ave. 1: Cars use the access road outside No 1 and No 3 Lysdon avenue as a short cut. 2: Cars constantly use the access road and don't slow down while using this road outside No 1 and No 3 Lysdon Ave, children play and come out between parked cars. 3: The road is narrow which means people mount the grass to avoid parked cars. 4: Ideally speed bumps and or an "Access only" sign post should be fitted to the access road.</p>
NE25 0RX	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0SB	1			I have noticed that there are few cars going round the roundabout at Seaburn View.
NE25 0SB	1			
NE25 0RV	1			
NE25 0TA	1			
	76	7	0	