

## RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CORPORATE DIRECTOR

ACTING DIRECTOR OF LOCAL SERVICES AND HOUSING: PAUL JONES

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### PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF VARIOUS SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS – U6513 NORHAM ROAD, ASHINGTON

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#### **Purpose of report:**

To consider proposed safety improvements at Norham Road, Ashington, including footpath widening, extension of one way system, extension of 20mph Speed Limit, and amendments to parking restrictions, which will be introduced as part of the forthcoming resurfacing works.

#### **Recommendations:**

**It is recommended that the safety improvements are introduced as proposed as the measures will significantly improve road safety in the area.**

#### **Key issues**

- 1) Scheme includes footpath widening which will significantly improve road safety for children and parents attending St Aidan's First School and The Northumberland C of E Academy's James Knott Campus.
- 2) Scheme being funded by LTP and will be introduced as part of a scheduled resurfacing scheme.
- 3) The scheme will assist in improving road safety in the area.
- 4) Scheme has the support of Councillor Brian Gallacher.
- 5) Scheme has the support of the aforementioned local schools.
- 6) Residents of Newbiggin Road have reported incidents of indiscriminate parking. This scheme will assist in resolving these issues because the footpath widening should encourage walking to school.

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Report Author

Neil Snowdon – Senior Programme Officer  
(01670) 624128  
Neil.Snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk

## **PROPOSED INTRODUCTION OF VARIOUS SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS – NORHAM ROAD, ASHINGTON**

### **BACKGROUND**

- 1) Concerns have been raised by Councillor Gallacher, St Aidans First School, The Northumberland Church of England Academy's James Knott Campus and local residents about road safety on Norham Road in Ashington.
- 2) Because Norham Road is due to be resurfaced during the school summer holidays, potential safety improvements have been investigated. It is proposed that these are introduced at the same time on the grounds of efficiency. Plans of the proposed scheme are attached as Appendix 1.
- 3) Of primary concern is the narrow footpath on the western side of Norham Road which, despite leading from the existing school crossing patrol site, is difficult to negotiate safely. This will be widened to 1.5 metres where necessary to ensure that the route to the schools is significantly improved.
- 4) The footpath widening aspect of the scheme should encourage parents to walk their children to school by making use of the nearby car parks, and using the existing School Crossing Patrol to gain access to Norham Road. This should also be of benefit to residents of Newbiggin Road who have reported incidents of inconsiderate parking in the back lane at school start and finish times.
- 5) In order for the footpath widening to be introduced, it will no longer be possible to exit Norham Road onto Newbiggin Road, therefore the existing one way entry system will commence at the Norham Road / Newbiggin Road junction rather than north of Norham Road / Newbiggin Road Back Lane junction. This means that any affected residents of Newbiggin Road will have to exit their back lane via North Seaton Road.
- 6) The existing 20mph zone will be extended, it will now commence at the Norham Road / Newbiggin Road junction, to further improve road safety in the area by reducing vehicular speeds.
- 7) Two sets of additional parking restrictions are proposed as follows to allow the safe passage of vehicles throughout Norham Road, notably where the footpath has been widened:-
  - No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double yellow lines) on the eastern side of Norham Road from its junction with Newbiggin Road to its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane.
  - No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines) on the eastern side of Norham Road from its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane to a point 15 metres north of its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane.

- 8) Additionally, the existing bus stand, which is only used for school buses, is too large for current use; this will be reduced in length, and replaced with No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines). This has been discussed with the Council's Passenger Transport Operations Manager who supports the proposal.

## **CONSULTATION**

- 9) Bearing in mind the ongoing road safety issues in relation to schools located on Norham Road, and the fact that these proposals will significantly improve road safety in the area, the scheme will be introduced without any formal consultation, although an information letter has been sent to all affected residents of Norham Road and Newbiggin Road. A copy of this letter together with a plan of the restrictions to be imposed is attached as Appendix 1.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 10) 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. However, because this scheme will significantly improve road safety in the area it is recommended that all safety improvements are introduced as proposed.
- 11) 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 – Copy of Scheme Drawings

Appendix 2 – Copy of Information Letter to Residents

Appendix 3 – Copy of email of Councillor Gallacher's support to the scheme

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

none

## **IMPLICATIONS ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT**

<b>Policy:</b>	Consistent with existing policies
<b>Finance and value for money:</b>	Scheme will be financed from LTP
<b>Human Resources:</b>	None
<b>Property:</b>	None
<b>Equalities:</b>	None

<b>Risk Assessment:</b>	Residential area, route to schools, speeding traffic and associated visibility issues.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder:</b>	Scheme will promote a safer environment.
<b>Customer considerations:</b>	Pedestrians will benefit from widened footpath. Residents will have to negotiate the safety improvements as necessary.
<b>Sustainability:</b>	None
<b>Consultation:</b>	The emergency services have been informed of the scheme. Information letters will be sent to all affected residents. The proposals have been approved by Councillor Gallacher
<b>Wards:</b>	Haydon

## DECISION TAKEN

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

Paul Jones: Acting Director of Local Services and Housing

**Subject:**

Proposed Introduction of Various Safety Improvements at Norham Road, Ashington

**Consultation:**

None carried out. Scheme being introduced in order to improve road safety.

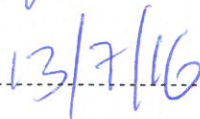
**Decision Taken:**

To approve the introduction of the various safety improvements at Norham Road, Ashington as proposed.

**Signature of Director**




**Date**



## **APPENDIX 1 – PLANS OF PROPOSED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**



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KEY	FOOTWAY	FOOTWAY NEW TYPE 1
		
K1	PROVIDE NEW PCC 125x255 HALF BATTER KERB TO BE UPSTAND TO MATCH EXISTING MATCH ADJACENT KERBS.	
K10	PROVIDE NEW 125x150 PCC UPSTAND KERB TO BE LAID WITH MAX 5mm UPS LAID.	
DW	PROVIDE NEW 125 x 255 TO CONCRETE HALF BATTERED TO BULLNOSE DROPPER KERB TYPE DR.	
E1	PROVIDE NEW 50x150 PCC FOOTWAY FLAT TOP EDGING.	
	TAKE UP AND REMOVE TO TIP OFF SITE EXISTING PCC WHERE PRESENT. BLOCKS WHERE PRESENT.	

REMOVED CUSHION

## CONSTRUCTION

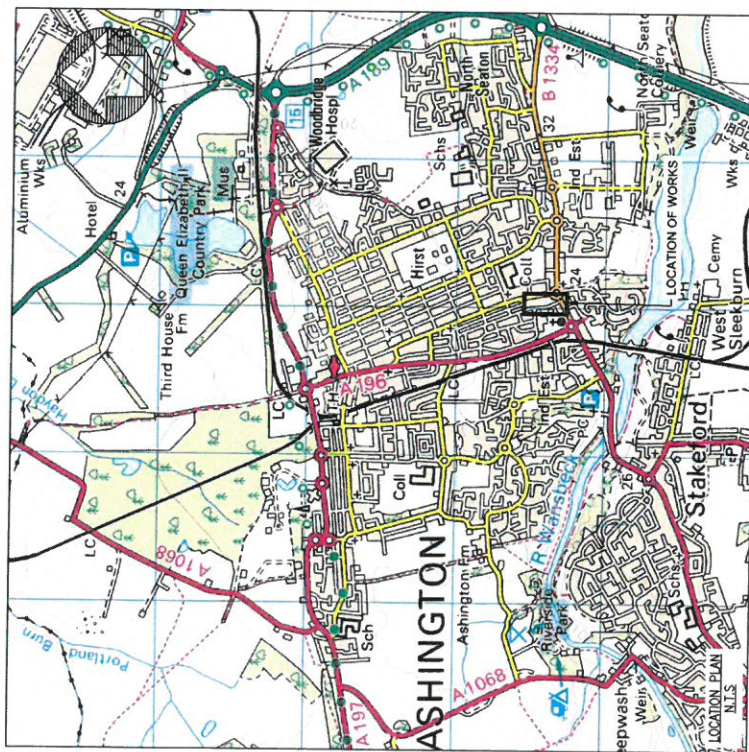
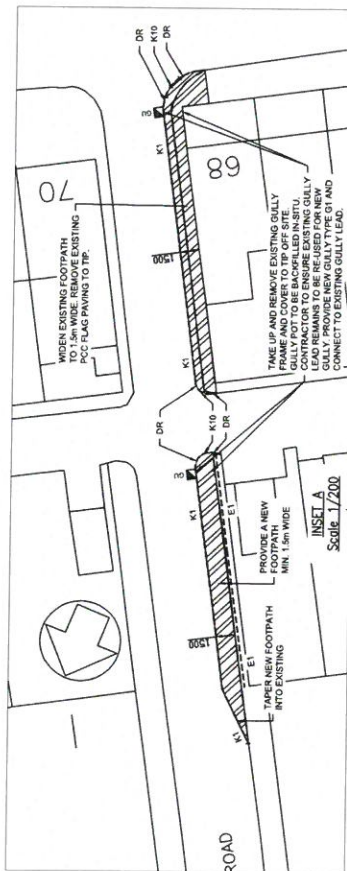
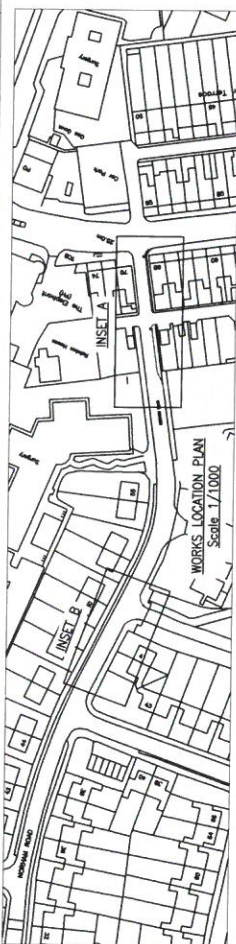
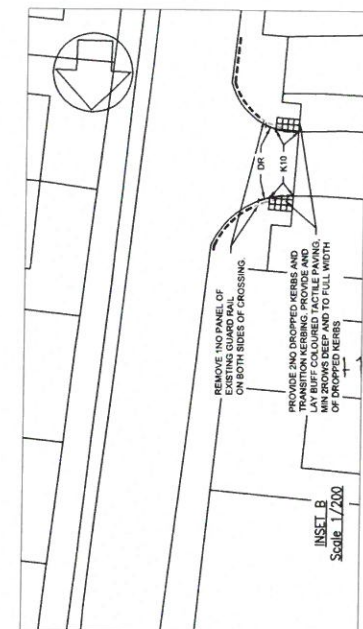
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NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL  
CITY HALL, MORPETH,  
NORTHUMBERLAND, NE31 2EF

U6513 NORHAM ROAD, ASHINGTON  
PROPOSED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

LOCATION PLAN, ENGINEERING LAYOUT & LIST OF DRAWINGS

**Northumberland**  
Northumberland County Council  
TECHNICAL SERVICES

N	Date MAY 16	Checked SF	Prepared SF
Ring Number HD159270/00/U6513/10/01 Number/File Number			
			Rev A



## LIST OF DRAWINGS

CD No.	DRAWING TITLE	SHEET No.	DRAWING No.
1	LOCATION PLAN, ENGINEERING LAYOUT AND LIST OF DRAWINGS	1 OF 1	H0156270/00/00S13/10/01
2	CONSTRUCTION DETAILS	1 OF 1	H0156270/00/00S13/10/02
3	SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS	1 OF 1	H0156270/00/00S13/10/03



**KEY**

S10x  SUPPLY AND ERECT NEW TRAFFIC SIGN. SEE SIGN SCHEDULE FOR DETAILS.

NOTES-  
TRAFFIC MONS

1. NEW SIGNS TO BE MANUFACTURED FROM ALUMINUM COMPOSITE PANEL.  
2. ENSURE POSTS DO NOT PROTRUDE ABOVE SIGN ENDS.

3. ENSURE A MINIMUM 0.5m CLEARANCE FROM EDGE OF CARRIAGEWAY OR GREATER IF SPECIFIED.

ALL ILLUMINATED SIGNAGE POWER SUPPLIES  
ARE TO BE ARRANGED THROUGH NCC STREET  
LIGHTING.

ROAD MARKINGS  
ALL MARKINGS TO BE IN THERMOPLASTIC

ROAD MARKINGS SHOULD BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH CLAUSE 1212 OF SHW. RETRO-REFLECTIVITY REQUIREMENTS

COMMENCE FROM THE DATE OF APPLICATION OR DATE OF TRAFFICKING, WHICHEVER IS LATER, AND SHALL LAST FOR THE FUNCTIONAL LIFE OF

REQUIREMENT OF A MINIMUM  
REFLECTIVITY VALUE OF 100 MCD/MAX.

RECEIVED MARKINGS AND 1.5MM FOR SPRAY  
APPLIED MARKINGS. IN NO CASE SHALL ANY  
MATERIAL BE LAID MORE THAN 5MM BELOW

ALL EXISTING CONFLICTING ROAD MARKINGS  
BE REMOVED.

ANY QUERIES PLEASE CONTACT STEWART  
FLOOR COUNTY HALL, TEL No. 01670 620466.  
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UNLESS STATED OTHERWISE.

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HALL, MORPETH.  
BERLAND, NE81 2EF

US513 NORHAM ROAD, ASHINGTON

PROPOSED SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS
<p>1. The proposed safety improvements include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The proposed safety improvements include the following:</li> </ul>

DATE

SCOUTS MEET AND RUN

Orthomyxoviridae

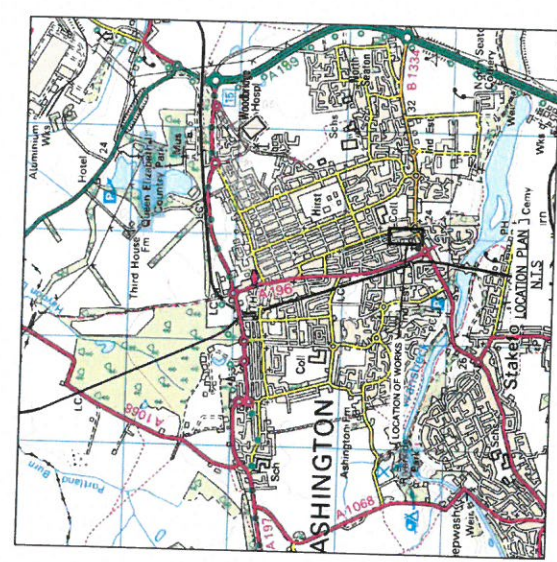
Northumberland County Council  
TECHNICAL SERVICES





Date	Checked	Planned
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Sign ref	TS&GD 2016 ref	h height mm	Legend	No off	Surface	Approx size mm	Posts/sign dia length no mm	Moulding height mm	Remarks
S101A S101B	-	-		2	-	1500x 700	Existing post to be taken up and set-aside	21	Take down and set aside existing sign and post in 2no locations (S101A). Re-erect sign in 2no locations (S101B). Contractor to ensure that sign is located just inside the property frontrage.
S102	652	-		3	Class R2	300x 450	76 3.05 1	2.1	Erect new post and plate.
S103	606	-		3	Class R2	600	76 3.50 1	2.1	Erect new post and plate.
Part 3 Item 1	62.5	-		3	Class R2	660x 235			

ROAD MARKINGS: SOURCE = F

REF	DWG NO	MARK	GAP (m)	WIDTH (mm)	IRIS STUDS	USE
A	1038	4000	-	-	NO	UNIDIRECTIONAL ARROW
B	1017	CONF	-	75	NO	SINGLE YELLOW LINE, 150mm OFFSET
C	1018.1	CONF	-	75	NO	DOUBLE YELLOW LINE, 150mm OFFSET FROM KERB AND 75mm GAP BETWEEN BORDERS
D	1025.1	1000	1000	100	NO	150mm WIDE ZIG ZAG LINES WITH 700mm CONTINUOUS PROPOSITION LINE
E	1027.1	3000	-	150	NO	150mm WIDE ZIG ZAG LINES WITH 700mm CONTINUOUS PROPOSITION LINE
F	1038.1	4000	-	-	NO	4000mm LONG ARROW, 1000mm GAP AND 1800mm HIGH TEST
G	1048	1600	-	-	NO	1600mm HIGH TEST
H	1065	4300x1000	-	-	NO	20 MPH SPEED ROUNDEL
J	1058A	600	300	100	NO	EDGE OF CARRIAGEWAY AT JUNCTION



## APPENDIX 2 – COPY OF INFORMATION LETTER SENT TO RESIDENTS

County Hall • Morpeth • Northumberland • NE61 2EF • Web: [www.northumberland.gov.uk](http://www.northumberland.gov.uk)

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The Occupier

Our Ref: HD159270  
Your Ref:  
Contact: Mr N Snowdon  
Direct Line: 01670 624128  
Fax: 01670 626136  
E-mail: [HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:HighwaysProgramme@northumberland.gov.uk)  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016

Dear Sir/Madam

### **Introduction of Various Safety Improvements** **Norham Road, Ashington**

Concerns have been raised by Councillor Gallacher, St Aidans First School, The Northumberland Church of England Academy's James Knott Campus and local residents about road safety on Norham Road in Ashington.

I am writing to inform you that in order to alleviate these concerns, because Norham Road is due to be resurfaced during the school summer holidays, the introduction of potential safety improvements have been investigated. It is proposed that these improvements are introduced at the same time on the grounds of efficiency.

Of primary concern is the narrow footpath on the western side of Norham Road which despite leading from the existing school crossing patrol site is difficult to negotiate safely. This will be widened to 1.5 metres where necessary to ensure that the route to school is significantly improved.

The footpath widening aspect of the scheme should encourage parents to walk their children to school by making use of the nearby car parks, and using the existing School Crossing Patrol to gain access to Norham Road. This should also be of benefit to residents of Newbiggin Road who have reported incidents of inconsiderate parking in the back lane at school start and finish times.

In order for the footpath widening to be introduced, it will no longer be possible to exit Norham Road onto Newbiggin Road, therefore the existing one way entry system will commence at the Norham Road / Newbiggin Road junction rather than north of Norham Road / Newbiggin Road Back Lane junction. This means that any affected residents of Newbiggin Road will have to exit their back lane via North Seaton Road.

The existing 20mph zone will be extended, it will now commence at the Norham Road / Newbiggin Road junction, to further improve road safety in the area by reducing vehicular speeds.

Two sets of additional parking restrictions are proposed as follows to allow the safe passage of vehicles throughout Norham Road, notably where the footpath has been widened:-


- No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double yellow lines) on the eastern side of Norham Road from its junction with Newbiggin Road to its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane.

- No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines) on the eastern side of Norham Road from its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane to a point 15 metres north of its junction with Newbiggin Road Back Lane.

Additionally, the existing bus stand is too large for current use, this will be reduced in length, and replaced with No Waiting at Any Time Restrictions (Double Yellow Lines).

Plans showing the various improvements to be introduced are attached for information.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Snowdon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Neil Snowdon  
**Senior Programme Officer**

## **APPENDIX 3 – EMAIL FROM COUNCILLOR GALLACHER SUPPORTING SCHEME**



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## NORHAM ROAD RESURFACING AND SCHOOL SAFETY PROJECT

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**Brian Gallacher** <brian.gallacher@northumberland.gov.uk>  
To: Neil Snowdon <neil.snowdon@northumberland.gov.uk>

11 July 2016 at 19:35

Hello Neil,

I'm sending this email of support, with the Norham Road project, which deals with a corridor of improvements in and around two Schools within the Haydon Ward. Ashington.

The scheme has involved a wide range of NCC Council departments and services working together to plan a summer holiday program of work involving;

- school Road Safety.

- Highways design staff

- A re-designed one-way system to better control of school traffic

- Extra Street Lighting.

- Path widening to better suit pedestrians prams and wheelchairs.

- Tree pruning.

I also fully support the consultation process with residents to gain a safer access from Newbiggin Road onto Norham road.

When completed this will be a fantastic piece of work for us all to be proud of.

Regards

Cllr. Brian Gallacher