



Northumberland County Council

**RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY  
SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES**

**Paul Jones**

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**Proposed A196 Guide Post to Morpeth, Introduction of new 50mph speed limit restriction**

**13 March 2018**

**Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson - Environment & Local Services**

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**Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the background to the implementation of a new 50mph speed limit on the A196 between Guide Post and Morpeth which was a Local High Risk Safety Scheme included in the Local Transport Programme (LTP) Programme 2017/2018.

**Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Experimental Order is implemented on a permanent basis, with amendment, as detailed below.

**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. Concerns were raised by the local community after a number of accidents, including two fatal collisions, occurred on the stretch of the A196 between Guide Post and Morpeth.
2. An Experimental Traffic Regulation Order was introduced for a period of 12 months on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to assess the implication of a 50 mph speed limit on the A196 between Guide Post and Morpeth.
3. A 50 mph speed was also introduced on the adjoining roads to Hepscott and Bothal as detailed in the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order (reference TROM\_0 53).

## **Delegated Decision**

4. This was subsequently reduced further to 40 mph speed limit in the Permanent Order (reference TROM\_096 and TROM\_088), as detailed below.

## **Background**

Concerns have been received for many years about speeding and road safety along the length of the A196. As part of the improvement programme a proposal to introduce a 50mph limit on the A196 between Guide Post and Morpeth was included in the LTP programme for 2017/18. This followed concerns from the local community and a number of accidents on this stretch of the road, including two fatal collisions.

Making an experimental order as a precursor to a permanent order can have material benefits. As well as being a more cost effective and flexible approach (allowing e.g. for immediate feedback and minor changes) than a permanent or temporary order.

A 50 mph speed limit was introduced using an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order for a period of 12 months, commencing on 31<sup>st</sup> October 2016. This has also meant introducing a 50 MPH speed limit on the adjoining roads to Bothal and Hepscott. Previously these roads were de-restricted and therefore the speed limit has been reduced.

During the period of the experimental order there were no objections, however, some feedback was received. In view of the comments received it is proposed to further reduce the speed limit on the adjoining roads to Bothal and Hepscott to a 40 MPH Speed Limit. This would also compliment the impending 20 MPH limit to be introduced into Hepscott Village.

Northumbria Police, other emergency services and relevant statutory consultees were notified of these amendments as part of the process for making the permanent Orders.

Consultation took place with Local County Councillor, the parish council, the emergency services and relevant statutory consultees.

## Delegated Decision

### 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>Legal</b>	Traffic Regulation Order (reference TROM_096)
<b>Procurement</b>	Signage to meet Regulations
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	None
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	A reduction in speed will lead to a safer environment for all road users.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction
<b>Wards</b>	Longhorsley

### **Background papers:**

S:\Highways\PROJECT\16\HF LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES\High Risk Site Schemes\HF163512 - A196, C131, C132 Bothal, Hepscott junction, Shadfen\50mph Speed Limit

[The County of Northumberland \(A196 Guide Post to Morpeth Introduction of New 50mph Speed Limit\) Experimental Order 2016 \(TROM\\_053\)](#)

[The County of Northumberland \(A196 Guide Post to Morpeth 40 MPH and 50 MPH Speed Restrictions\) Order 2017 \(TROM\\_096\)](#)

## Delegated Decision

[The County of Northumberland \(Hepscott Village 20 and 40 MPH Speed Restriction\) Order 2017 \(TROM\\_088\)](#)

## Appendix A – Scheme Plan

**Report sign off.**

***Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report:***

	initials
Finance Officer	
Monitoring Officer/Legal	
Human Resources	
Procurement	
I.T.	
Director	
Portfolio Holder(s)	

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## Delegated Decision

### DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer:**

Service Director, Local Services

**Subject:**

Proposed introduction of a 50 MPH Speed Limit Restriction on the A196 Guide Post to Morpeth Road (and a 40 MPH Speed Limit on the adjoining roads to Bothal and Hepscott).

**Consultation:**

Not required – proposal part of LTP 2017/18, following Experimental Traffic Regulation Order and supported by Local County Councillors and Northumbria Police

**Decision Taken:**

Introduction of a 50 MPH Speed Limit Restriction on the A196 Guide Post to Morpeth Road and a 40 MPH Speed Limit on the adjoining roads to Bothal and Hepscott on a permanent basis following an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order

Signature of Director



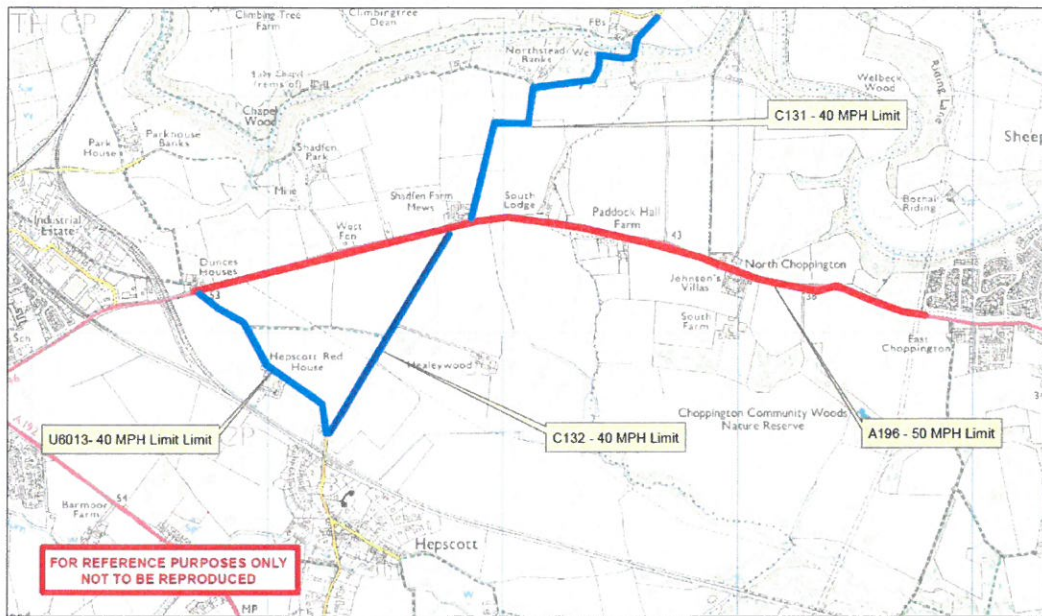
Date

23/3/18



# Delegated Decision

## Appendix A



<b>Northumberland</b> Northumberland County Council  Northumberland County Council County Hall Morpeth Northumberland NE61 2SF Tel: 01670 530000	<b>Network Management Information System</b>  <small>This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. Ordnance Survey's data sources reproduction copyright Ordnance Survey and may need to be approved for civil proceedings. Used as per 10004354 2009.</small>	<b>Title:</b>  <b>Drn:</b> <b>Date:</b> <b>Scale:</b>	<b>Proposed introduction of a 50 MPH Speed Limit Restriction</b> on the A196 Guide Post to Morpeth Road and a 40 MPH Speed Limit on the adjoining roads to Bothal and Hepscott November 2017
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