



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

C121 at Linton 40 MPH Speed Limit

Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson - Environment & Local Services

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce a 40 MPH speed limit along the C121 in Linton.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the posted speed limit on the section of the C121 which runs through Linton village is reduced from National Speed Limit to 40 MPH.

Link to Corporate Plan

Living - "We want you to feel safe, healthy and cared for"

Enjoying - "We want you to love where you live"

Learning - "We want you to achieve and realise your potential"

Key Issues

1. Local residents have expressed concerns regarding excessive vehicle speeds on the C121 at Linton.
2. A petition was received from local residents in 2015 requesting a reduction in speed limit which was subsequently supported by the then County Councillor Milburn Douglas.
3. The current proposal is supported by the present ward councillor, County Councillor Dunn.
4. The recent housing development to the area has impacted on the surrounding road network in terms of increased traffic volume and increased turning manoeuvres at junctions within the extent of the proposed 40 MPH speed restriction.
5. The scheme will be funded from the 2019/20 LTP programme.

Background

Linton is a small settlement located within the South East Northumberland area and is accessed immediately north of Ashington via the A1068 then the C121. Linton was established on the basis of the former colliery and includes housing, small businesses and a local primary school. The main point of access into Linton is via the C121 using an uncontrolled 'T' junction which then leads to residential areas including First Row to Fourth Row. A second minor junction immediately north enables access to the more recent Foxcover housing development.

The full extent of Linton is designated a 20 MPH Zone which is delineated using terminal signs on First Row. Vertical traffic calming features in the form of speed humps are positioned on Foxcover, which provides access to the more recent Bellway housing development. The remaining sections largely consist of back lanes and are therefore self enforcing in terms of speed management.

Previous Studies

A South East Area Committee Report submitted in response to the petition in January 2016. It made the following recommendation;

- *While a 30mph speed limit may not meet the necessary Department for Transport criteria, it may still be appropriate to implement a reduced speed limit. A proposal to look at the feasibility of such a scheme will be included in the Local Transport Plan Programme in 2016/17.*

The petition specifically requested a 30 MPH speed limit which was considered. This was investigated at the time, however, the area in question did not meet the criteria for such measures as set out in DfT Circular 01/13 'Setting Local Speed Limits'. The minimum requirements for 30 MPH limits would be that there are;

- 20 or more houses (on one or both sides of the road)
- A minimum length of 600 metres.

Given that the area in question is considered a suburban road on the outskirts of an urban area where there is little development, it is more suited to a 40 MPH speed limit.

Speed surveys were undertaken at two locations on the C121 in November 2014. Site 1 was sited approximately 70 metres north of the C121/ First Row junction. The average speed in for northbound vehicles was 41.8mph. The average speed for southbound vehicles was 43.4mph. Site 2 was sited approximately 35 metres south of the C121 / First Row junction. The average speed for northbound vehicles was slower at 29.2mph. The average speed for southbound vehicles was also slower at 28mph.

Delegated Decision

Proposal

The 40 MPH speed limit will extend just over 600 metres of the C121, split evenly in length either side of the First Row access into Linton. In total, the 40 MPH speed limit will cover the access and egress for First Row, Foxcover and the scrap yard. The remainder of the C121 will remain National Speed Limit and this will be denoted using appropriate terminal signs. The 20 MPH operating throughout Linton will remain in place.

Details of the proposals are shown on the plan at Appendix A.

Council Officers have worked closely with Councillor Dunn and the Parish Council who both support the scheme.

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

Delegated Decision

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed from LTP 2019/20
Legal	Traffic Regulation Orders (reference TROM_157)
Procurement	Signage and road markings to meet Regulations for Traffic Regulation Orders
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	The proposal is designed to reduce the risks associated with driving at speed.
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.
Customer Consideration	A reduction in speed will lead to a safer environment for all road users.
Carbon reduction	Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction
Wards	Lynemouth

Delegated Decision

Background papers:

File reference - S:\Highways\PROJECT18\HE MINOR
IMPROVEMENTS\HE185334 - C121 at Linton - 40mph Speed Limit

Appendix A – Scheme Plan - HE185334-00-C121-10-01

Author and Contact Details

Report Author **Paul McKenna, Programme Engineer**

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer:

Service Director, Local Services

Subject:

Proposed 40 MPH speed limit along the C121 encompassing the accesses into Linton village

Consultation:

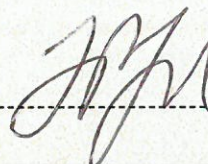
Not required for introduction of a 40 MPH Speed Limit Restriction within the vicinity of Linton village – proposal supported by Local County Councillor, and notified to Northumbria Police.

Decision Taken:

To introduce a 40 MPH speed limit along a section of the C121 in amongst the various accesses into Linton village.

Signature of Director

Date



2/7/19

Delegated Decision

Appendix A

