



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

B6342 at Little Bavington 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 B6342 in Little Bavington.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the existing derestricted speed limit operating throughout Little Bavington on the B6342 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. The proposal has been developed following concerns raised by residents in the area and the Parish Council.
2. There are several private driveways which are accessed directly onto a derestricted speed limit on the B6342 and visibility is limited due to the nature of the bend of the road.
3. The scheme is supported by the present local ward member Councillor Riddle and Bavington Parish Council.
4. The scheme will be funded from the 2019/20 LTP programme.

Delegated Decision

Background

The B6342 is a single carriageway which flows through Little Bavington. This section has a derestricted speed limit (60 MPH) with no designated footway and a 'S bend' where several residential dwellings and private accesses are situated on both sides of the road.

Existing traffic signing and road markings are limited to centre lines, intermittent 'slow' markings, hazard warning signs relating to a sharp bend on the road and 'Little Bavington' nameplate signs.

Visibility is poor due to the near 90 degree bend on the entry to Little Bavington from the south side and entry from the north having an approach just over the crest of a hill. One recorded accident occurred in 2017 due to the limited visibility from the access of 'The Cottage', however residents state that near misses are a regular occurrence.



Photograph 1: Existing access with poor visibility where collision occurred

Whilst Little Bavington does not meet the criteria to be classified as a village under speed limit guidance set by the Department for Transport, a new 40 MPH speed limit is proposed as the lowest that can be considered.

The 40 MPH signs will incorporate 'Welcome to Little Bavington, Please Drive Carefully' text and speed limit roundels on the carriageway to act as gateway features in both directions that lead into the residential area. 'SLOW' road marking text will also be installed with amended centre line markings and road studs to coincide with the new restriction, along with 40 MPH repeater signs and advisory 'Reduce Speed Now 20 MPH Max Speed' signs to encourage reduced speeds around the 'S bend'. The remainder of the B6342 will remain at National Speed Limit and this will be denoted using appropriate terminal signs.

It is expected that the speed limit reduction measures will promote slower traffic speeds in Little Bavington where vehicle turning manoeuvres are taking place to gain access and egress to/from residential properties.

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

Delegated Decision

Council Officers have worked closely with Councillor Riddle and Bavington Parish Council on 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_164)
Procurement	Signage and road markings to meet Regulations for Traffic Regulation Orders
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes No N/A	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	Bellingham

Delegated Decision

Background papers:

File reference - S:\Highways\PROJECT\18\HF LOCAL SAFETY SCHEMES\Local Safety Schemes\Rural Roads\HF185538 - B6342 at Little Bavington

Appendix A – Scheme Plan - HF185538-XX-B6342-10-01

Author and Contact Details

Report Author **William Binks, Consultant Engineer**

Delegated Decision

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer:

Service Director, Local Services

Subject:

Proposed 40 MPH speed limit along the B6342 encompassing the accesses into Little Bavington

Consultation:

Not required for the introduction of a 40 MPH speed limit restriction within the vicinity of Little Bavington - the proposal is supported by the Local County Councillor and has been notified to Northumbria Police.

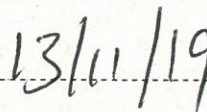
Decision Taken:

To introduce a 40 MPH speed limit along a section of the B6342 in advance of and within Little Bavington

Signature of Director



Date



Delegated Decision

Appendix A

