



# **Northumberland**

## **County Council**

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

**Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services**

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#### **PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT, SOUTH CHARLTON**

**Cabinet Member: Councillor Glen Sanderson**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider the results of the consultation exercise regarding a proposal to provide a 30mph speed limit in the village of South Charlton.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the proposed 30mph speed limit is implemented.

#### **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**

The County Council has received concerns from residents, Eglington Parish Council and the local ward member about the speed of traffic in South Charlton.

The village is currently subject to the national speed limit of 60mph.

The consultation response was positive and the scheme will be funded through the LTP.

## Delegated decisions

### Background

1. The County Council has received concerns from residents, Eglingham Parish Council and the local ward member about the speed of traffic in South Charlton.
2. The village does not currently have a reduced speed limit and is therefore subject to the national speed limit of 60mph.
3. Traffic Advisory Leaflet 01/04 (DfT 2004) suggests a reasonable minimum criteria for the definition of a village for the purpose of applying a 30mph speed limit are
  - 20 or more houses, and
  - A minimum length of 600 metres
4. Allowance can also be made for key buildings such as a church, shop or school.
5. There are 35 individual addresses in South Charlton. The length of the proposed speed limit is 688 metres, so the criteria are met. There is also a church in the village and the village hall is host to a nursery.
6. Residents and statutory consultees were consulted on the proposal. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
7. Twenty one responses were received in favour of the proposal. There were no responses against. A copy of the responses is shown in Appendix B.
8. Both Eglingham Parish Council and the local ward member support the proposal.
9. It is therefore recommended that the proposed 30mph speed limit should be implemented.

### Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	
Finance and value for money	The scheme will be funded through the Local Transport Plan Programme.
Legal	None
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None



## Delegated decisions

<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	None
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	None
<b>Customer Consideration</b>	Local residents and statutory consultees have been consulted.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Longhoughton

### Background papers:

File ref: HED19323

### Report sign off.

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

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

### Author and Contact Details

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Report Author     ***Richard McKenzie – Senior Programmes Officer***



Delegated decisions

Appendix A - Consultation Plan



## Delegated decisions

### Appendix B - Consultation Responses

F O R	A G A I N S T	N E I T H E R	Other Relevant Comments
1			We would wholeheartedly support the proposed 30mph speed limit restrictions. South Charlton is often used as a 'thoroughfare' for traffic to the detriment of residents
1			Too many artic lorries drive through the village at speed, should be a 7.5T weight limit, a lot of near misses on the bends around church and care home.
1			My husband and I fully endorse a speed limit through the village of South Charlton - up and down! We would prefer 25 mph - even 20mph!! In the 28 years that we have lived in South Charlton (our front gate faces the main gate of St James Church) we see and "feel" the speed of all types of vehicles using this road, and are convinced that one of these days a speeding vehicle will lose control and plough into the last cottage on the bend at the bottom of the village - blind bends - very scary and dangerous. Also in the 28 years living here, the volume of traffic coming through the village has greatly increased. ALL TYPES OF VEHICLES!! What deterrent would you use to make sure motorists stick to a proposed speed limit please? It must be taken seriously otherwise it won't work and accidents are going to happen!! We've seen motorists speeding - at least 50mph!! - With phone in hand - blue type sports type car - No time to take registration of car - PLEASE IMPLEMENT THIS SPEED LIMIT. Thanking you.
1			I have two children and a dog and greatly welcome the proposed 30mph speed limit.
1			Eggingham Parish Council would like to give its full support to the proposal for a 30mph speed limit in South Charlton Village. The Parish Council agreed at its meeting on July 17th to respond to the consultation giving its full support. County Councillor Wendy Pattison who was in attendance at the meeting was delighted to hear of the consultation and is fully supportive. Please keep us informed of any updates. The Parish Council has been concerned for a number of years about the speed of traffic through the village particularly as there is the pre-school Little Acorns run from the Village Hall. There is also increasing concern about the heavy lorries using the route through the village for logging. A 30mph speed limit can only be a positive move.
1			1. The "Little Acorns" children's group regularly walk up and down the village. 2. the old people's home is in the village and elderly residents are walked around the village. 3. Large HGV lorries, particular those using the quarry and forestry work use the village as a 'cut through' which is creating problems. 4. There are working farms in the village involving regular slow moving farm vehicles, so it is imperative other road users drive slowly through the village. 5. All the above are exacerbated by the two consecutive right angle bends by the village church, which often results in vehicles being in the middle of the road, creating potential for accidents.
1			Please implement speed limit asap. Life in this small village is being ruined by cars speeding and HGV lorries far too big for the tight bends so a 30mph limit will be a step in the right direction.
1			From Cycling UK
1			Totally agree with speed restrictions cars, tractors and lorries never slow down with a 90 degree bend and a sharper bend just after that at church corner. I have witnessed lots of near misses, some contact. Lorries have to back up, or run on grass verges which I cut with my lawnmower. With a lot of elderly people and a new born baby in village it is just about inevitable that a serious accident is about to happen. I live at No 8 and we sit in consummatory just waiting for an accident. Too large lorries use this road from A1 to Wooler as a shortcut Eddie Stobart, JK Jenninson, Rock Haulage so yes speed indicators would be welcome. Wendy Pattison has tried numerous times but unsuccessful. Now it's your turn, here's hoping!
1			
1			Old residents Walking. Pre school Thurs & Fri. Grovewood Old Peoples Home. So many large lorries & tractors go through & fast.



## Delegated decisions

1		I believe not only a speed restriction but a size and weight restriction for the types of traffic currently using South Charlton as a rat run, to and from the A1, would be invaluable. I moved into South Charlton almost 10 years ago and as a rural community with Agriculture at its heart, totally understand the need for a certain number of Livestock, Grain and Feed wagons along with agricultural machinery, but the vast increase in all types of Haulage HGV's (Timber and Hardcore in particular) and the speeds at which they travel along totally unsuitable roads is unacceptable and extremely dangerous, particularly on entering the village from the A1 by the Old Peoples Home and on leaving the Village passing our Village Hall which hosts the Little Acorns Nursery School. Huge vehicles travelling at speed on narrow, unsuitable roads are just an accident waiting to happen.
1		I'd go further & make it 20mph. There's no need to go through at 30mph. Also I would extend the length to reduce the speed from South Charlton / lots of dog walkers & also extend East to slow cars down before the Grovewood House corner.
1		Pleased that this is the first step to road safety for South Charlton. However it doesn't stop 44 tonne vehicles driving through especially when the road isn't wide enough for two cars to pass each other in places. A width restriction would be the next option to implement.
1		My wife and I fully support the proposed speed limit through the village. We would also suggest extending the limit to the west of the houses and farm buildings to include the farm. Could a weight / size limit to be introduced to reduce the number of very large wagons that use the village as a shortcut to the A697 from the A1. The bridge west of the village sustains damage from these also.
1		1. The speed that traffic comes from Eglington side concerns me as they could end up on the pavement and into pedestrians or into the houses at the end. 2. Traffic approaching from the east A1 is too large if you meet at the bends there is not enough room. 3. This is a small community but the traffic volume is increasing. 4. The size of vehicles are very large for size of road eg lorries plus agricultural vehicles.
1		Should be 20mph & HGV traffic is often travelling through the village & along Ditchburn Road at speeds greater than 30mph.
1		Whilst I support these measures I would be happier if it was 20mph. In addition width restrictors would be useful at the top end of the village to stop large lorries using our road as a shortcut.
1		I support the proposal for a number of reasons. Firstly: there is no parking for the church and cars coming around the bend by the church often do not appreciate that people are often crossing the road near to the bend. Secondly: the pre-school group which uses the village hall need to be considered. Thirdly: more vehicles seem to be using the route as a fast route through to Powburn or Wooler. Also more and more heavy lorries probably unsuitable for the Shipley Bridge are using this route through the village. They are often too wide for the road, in particular if cars are parked and they are a danger to walkers.
1		I am writing on behalf of the children and staff at Little Acorns Pre-School. We are based at the village hall and adjoining woodland and regularly walk through the village to visit the elderly residents at Grovewood House care home where the children take part in singing and music, craft and creative sessions and spend time interacting with old friends. We visit the church for special events and walk along Ditchburn Road in order to join the bridleways and explore the nature and wildlife close by. There are no pavements along this road so we try to use the grass verges and rely heavily on the common sense and considerate driving of road users. 20mph would be more beneficial to us particularly along that stretch of road! Our children are ages between 2 & 4 years old and although we do have strict rules and guidelines and rigorous risk assessments in place to ensure the safety of our children at all times, we sadly have no control over the speed of vehicles travelling through the village, so we wholeheartedly support a lower speed limit, perhaps even 20mph could be considered. Thank you.
1		At west end of village a pre-school group meet two mornings a week. Parents park outside village to take children to school. Residential home at east end of village. Road is used as a main through road from A697 to A1. Quite a number of elderly or ageing people live in village. A number of lorries use this route including large timber lorries some with trailers - and large biomass lorries. At certain times of year a large number of farm machines use this route. At this time of year harvest machinery (rather large) come through village including tractors loading bales of straw.
21	0	0

## DECISION TAKEN

**Title of Officer(s) and Portfolio  
Holder (where appropriate):**

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

**Subject:**

**PROPOSED 30MPH SPEED LIMIT, SOUTH  
CHARLTON**

**Consultation**

- For: 21 (100%)
- Against: 0
- Neutral: 0

**Decision Taken:**

The proposed 30mph speed limit should be implemented.

Signature of Director/  
~~officer/Portfolio Holder~~ (where  
appropriate)\*



**Date**

16/10/19

\* delete as appropriate

