



Northumberland County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

18 October 2020

Proposed 30 MPH and 40 MPH Speed Limit Restriction in Whittonstall Village

Cabinet Member: Glen Sanderson – Leader of Council

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposed changes to the 30 MPH and 40 MPH speed limits in Whittonstall Village.

Recommendations

It is recommended the changes to the 30 MPH and 40 MPH speed limits in Whittonstall Village are introduced.

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

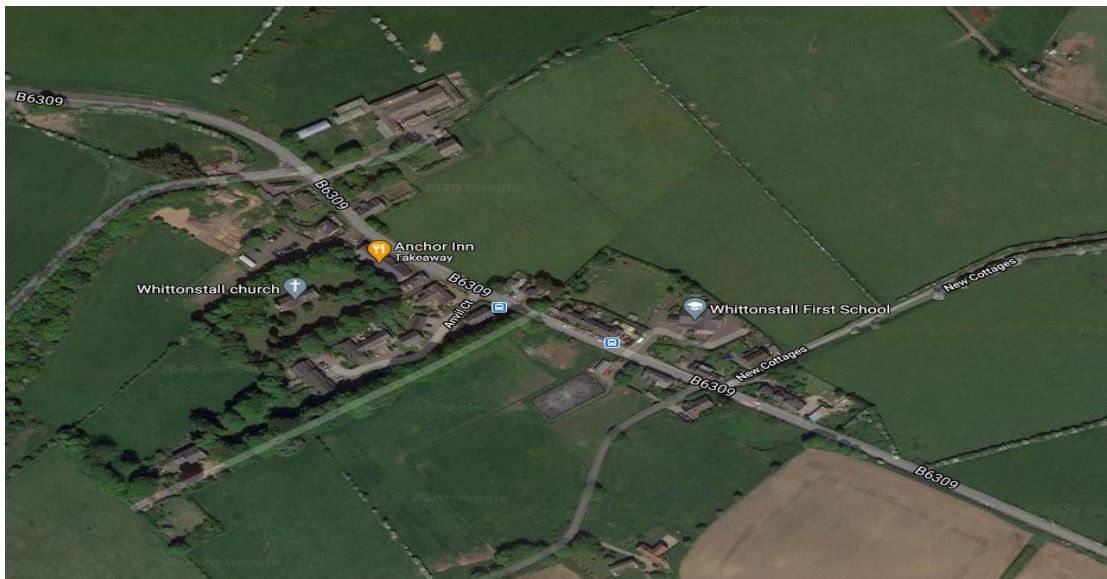
1. The changes to the speed limit adjacent to Whittonstall First School is in line with the County Council's current road safety policy.
2. This location would benefit from reduced vehicle speeds in the vicinity of Whittonstall First School where Vulnerable Road Users (VRUs) are present.
3. The scheme is supported by County Councillor Horncastle, Local Parish Council and Whittonstall First School.

Background

Introduction of Speed Limit changes to Whittonstall Village.

The introduction of the speed limit changes in Whittonstall Village forms part of the 2020/21 Local Transport Plan. This is part of the County Council's road safety initiative to introduce 20 MPH speed limits adjacent to all schools in Northumberland, provided it is feasible to do so. Anecdotal evidence suggests that measures of this kind adjacent to schools provide a safer environment for all road users.

Whittonstall Village has an existing 30 MPH Speed Limit, however due to the layout of the village i.e. it consists primarily of one straight road, the B6309 (see satellite photo below), it is considered that existing restrictions are not sufficient.



Satellite view of Whittonstall Village

In discussion with local County Councillor Horncastle, the Parish Council, Whittonstall First School and NCC Officers, the following design has been approved. Details of the proposals are shown on the plan at Appendix A,

This design includes a combination of measures which have proved successful in similar locations within the County.

These include:

- Creating a buffer zone on the approach to the village, reducing the speed limit from 60 MPH to 40 MPH to 30 MPH.
- The installation of a flashing interactive sign adjacent to Whittonstall First School, which will operate a peak times.
- Road Marking Improvements and Crossing Points

Delegated Decision

It should be noted that a permanent reduction of the speed limit to 20 MPH adjacent to Whittonstall First School would not be appropriate in these circumstances. However, the installation of an interactive sign indicating 20/30 MPH speed limits is considered a more than an effective alternative.



Whittonstall Village northbound approaching existing 30 MPH Limit.



Whittonstall Village northbound approaching Whittonstall First School on the right.

Delegated Decision

To facilitate these changes, the 30 MPH and 40 MPH speed limits will be included in the new Traffic Regulation Order (TROM_200) with revocation of existing Orders where applicable and road marking and signage changes.

Local canvassing of the scheme was undertaken by the Parish Council and Local County Councillor.

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 the 2020/21 Local Transport Plan
Legal	Traffic Regulation Orders (reference TROM_200)
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	N/A
Crime & Disorder	Speed limit schemes will reduce vehicle speeds and promote a safer environment in the area where the new speed limit are being introduced.
Customer Consideration	Residents in the area, parents and staff using the school will benefit from reducing vehicle speeds.
Carbon reduction	Reduced vehicle speeds can lead to reduced vehicle emissions and potential moving towards more sustainable forms of transport such as walking and cycling.
Wards	South Tynedale

Delegated Decision

Background papers:

File reference -

S:\Highways\PROJECT\20\HE Minor Improvements\HE203442D -
Whittonstall 20 MPH Speed\

Appendix A – Scheme Plan/Location Plan -

Author and Contact Details

Report Author: **Terry Luck - Programme Officer**

Delegated Decision

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer: Service Director, Local Services.

Subject: Proposed implementation of changes to 30 MPH and 40 MPH speed limits in Whittonstall Village.

Consultation: Not required for the introduction of changes to speed limits adjacent to Whittonstall First School on road safety initiative grounds. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor and Northumbria Police.

Decision Taken: To introduce the changes to the 30 MPH and 40 MPH speed limits in Whittonstall Village.

Signature of Director



Date

20 October 2020

Delegated Decision

Appendix A

