



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORT

Paul Jones - Director of Environment and Transport

PROPOSED 40mph SPEED LIMIT, B6344 ROTHBURY to THRUM MILL

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

Purpose of Report

To consider a proposal to provide a 40mph speed limit on the B6344 between Rothbury and Thrum Mill.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed 40mph speed limit is implemented.

Link to Corporate Plan

Thriving Places and Culture – Neighbourhoods are safe, clean and well maintained.

Key Issues

- A 40mph speed limit from Rothbury to Thrum Mill was submitted as a priority for the Local Transport Plan Programme by the local ward member.

Delegated decisions

Background

1. The local ward member submitted a 40mph speed limit on the B6344 between Rothbury and Thrum Mill as a priority for the Local Transport Plan Programme.
2. This section of the B6344 is subject to the national speed limit of 60mph. It consists of many bends which restrict forward visibility, a number of accesses and an informal parking area. The road narrows at the bridge over the Debdon Burn. A public bridleway joins the road at this point.
3. There are a few residential properties as well as Armstrong Park recreation ground which hosts regular events and sporting activities, generating turning movements in and out of the site. There is no footway present so anyone accessing these properties on foot must walk in the road.
4. There have been two recorded injury accidents on this section of road in the last five years, both in 2020. One of these resulted in serious injury, the other was classed as a slight injury. A further four slight injury accidents occurred prior to this period.
5. Guidance on speed limits is set out in "Setting Local Speed Limits" (DfT Circular 01/2013). It states that 40mph speed limits "should be considered where there are many bends, junctions or accesses..." which is the case here.
6. Statutory consultees were therefore informed of the proposal to implement the 40mph speed limit. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
7. One response was received from Rothbury Parish Council. The response was in favour of the proposal but asked that consideration be given to lowering the speed limit to 30mph. This is not possible because the road is not part of the built-up area of Rothbury. A copy of the response is shown in Appendix B.
8. The local Ward Member is in favour of the proposal.
9. It is therefore recommended that the proposed 40mph speed limit is implemented.

Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	The proposal is in accordance with relevant guidance.
Finance and value for money	The proposal will be funded via the Local Transport Plan Programme.
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order.

Delegated decisions

Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	None
Risk Assessment	None
Crime & Disorder	None
Customer Consideration	Statutory consultees have been consulted.
Carbon reduction	None
Wards	Rothbury

Background papers:

File ref: HE233726

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	PJ
Portfolio Holder(s)	

Author and Contact Details

Delegated decisions

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 U T R A L	
1			Other Relevant Comments Rothbury Parish Council support the proposals, however a reduction to 30mph would be preferable.
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DECISION TAKEN

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

Paul Jones - Director of Environment and Transport

Subject:

PROPOSED 40mph SPEED LIMIT, B6344 ROTHBURY to THRUM MILL

Consultation

One response in favour.

Decision Taken:

The proposed 40mph speed limit should be implemented.

Signature of Director



Date

10th July 2023
