

# RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

**Paul Jones** 

#### Proposed 40 MPH Speed Limit – B6545 Rotary Way, Ponteland

**Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle** 

10 January 2023

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#### **Purpose of Report**

This report sets out the background to the proposals to implement a new 40mph speed limit on the B6545 Rotary Way in Ponteland.

#### Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed new 40 MPH speed limit is implemented in order to improve road safety in the area.

#### **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**

- 1. Through the Transforming Cities Fund a new cycle route is proposed between Ponteland and Callerton as part of wider Active Travel Initiatives.
- A new cycle and pedestrian crossing facility is proposed in order to improve road safety for these users, which requires the existing derestricted speed limit to be reduced to a maximum of 40 MPH.
- 3. This scheme will be funded from a Transforming Cities Fund grant.
- 4. A Capital Strategy Group Report was agreed and signed off 11 October 2022 to accept the external funding.

#### Background

The B6545 Rotary Way is a single carriageway located just south of Ponteland linking High Callerton to Newcastle International Airport and is subject to the national speed limit, with little traffic calming features present and is not currently street-lit. There is very limited infrastructure available for cyclists and pedestrians along this stretch of road.

A public bridleway exists on the intersection of the B6545 road which intersects the road, travelling between West Road to Newcastle Airport Roundabout. This can be observed in Figure 1 and demonstrates that no formal crossing provisions are in place where the speed limit is currently derestricted.



Fig. 1: B6545 Rotary Way intersection with public bridleway

A new signalised controlled crossing is to be constructed at this location, which will give bridleway users priority in crossing the road and support the new cycleway's facilities. In order to facilitate this and improve road safety for pedestrians and cyclists, the speed limit on the B6545 will reduce to a maximum speed limit of 40 MPH. Recorded collisions along this stretch of road in the last 5 years indicate that a formal crossing is justified given the serious collision which occurred involving a pedestrian being struck by a vehicle when attempting to cross the road.

Guidance issued in the Department for Transport (DfT) document Cycle Infrastructure Design (Local Transport Note [LTN] 1/20) recommends in section 10.4 that signalised crossings are largely unsuitable where the road has a National Speed Limit in place, but will suit most users if a 40 MPH restriction is in operation, as illustrated by an extract in Figure 2.

Table 10-2: Crossing design suitability



Fig. 2: Table 10-2: Crossing design suitability. Taken from LTN 1/20. Source: DfT

Traffic calming features in the form of new 40 MPH signs and road markings with red surface treatment will be implemented to advise motorists of this new restriction and 50 metres of high friction buff coloured surfacing will be introduced either side of the crossing to highlight the presence of the crossing. New warning signs mounted on grey backing boards to inform road users of cyclists and pedestrians, the T-junction and new traffic lights will also be included as part of the scheme. The extents of the new 40 MPH speed limit in association with the new pedestrian crossings are illustrated in Figure 3 below.

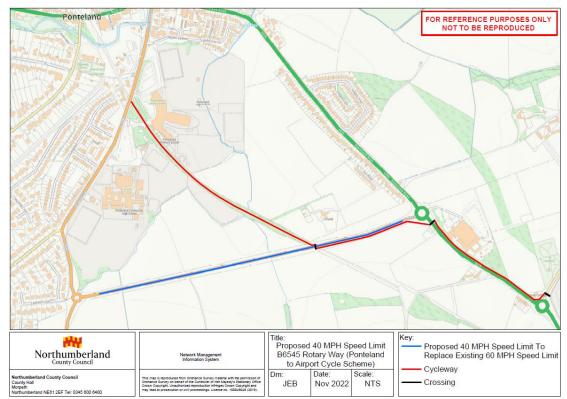


Fig. 3: Proposed new 40 MPH speed limit and pedestrian crossing locations

The A696 Ponteland Road already has a 40 MPH speed limit in place, which will tie in with the proposed 40 MPH on Rotary Way. To enhance pedestrian and cycle routes along the scheme, another signalised crossing will be added to Ponteland Road, just south of the roundabout connecting it with the B6545 Rotary Way and another further south at Prestwick Road Ends.

Details of the proposals are shown on the plans at Appendix A. It is expected that the speed limit reduction measures will promote slower traffic speeds at this location where the presence of pedestrians and cyclists is more prominent on a busy road linking Ponteland to Newcastle International Airport.

Ponteland Town Council have been notified of, and have acknowledged, the intention to provide a new 40 MPH speed limit. 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.

# Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies.			
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the Transforming Cities Fund.			
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order.			
Procurement	None			
Human Resources	None			
Property	None			
Equalities	N/A			
(Impact Assessment attached)				
Yes □ No □ N/A □				
Risk Assessment	The proposals are designed to reduce the risks associated with high speed levels.			
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement.			
Customer Consideration				
Carbon reduction	Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction.			
Wards	Ponteland East and Stannington			

## **Delegated Decision**

# **Background Papers:**

File references – S:\Highways\PROJECT\20\HE Minor Improvements\HE203447D-01 Ponteland to Airport Cycle Scheme

Appendix A – Scheme Layout

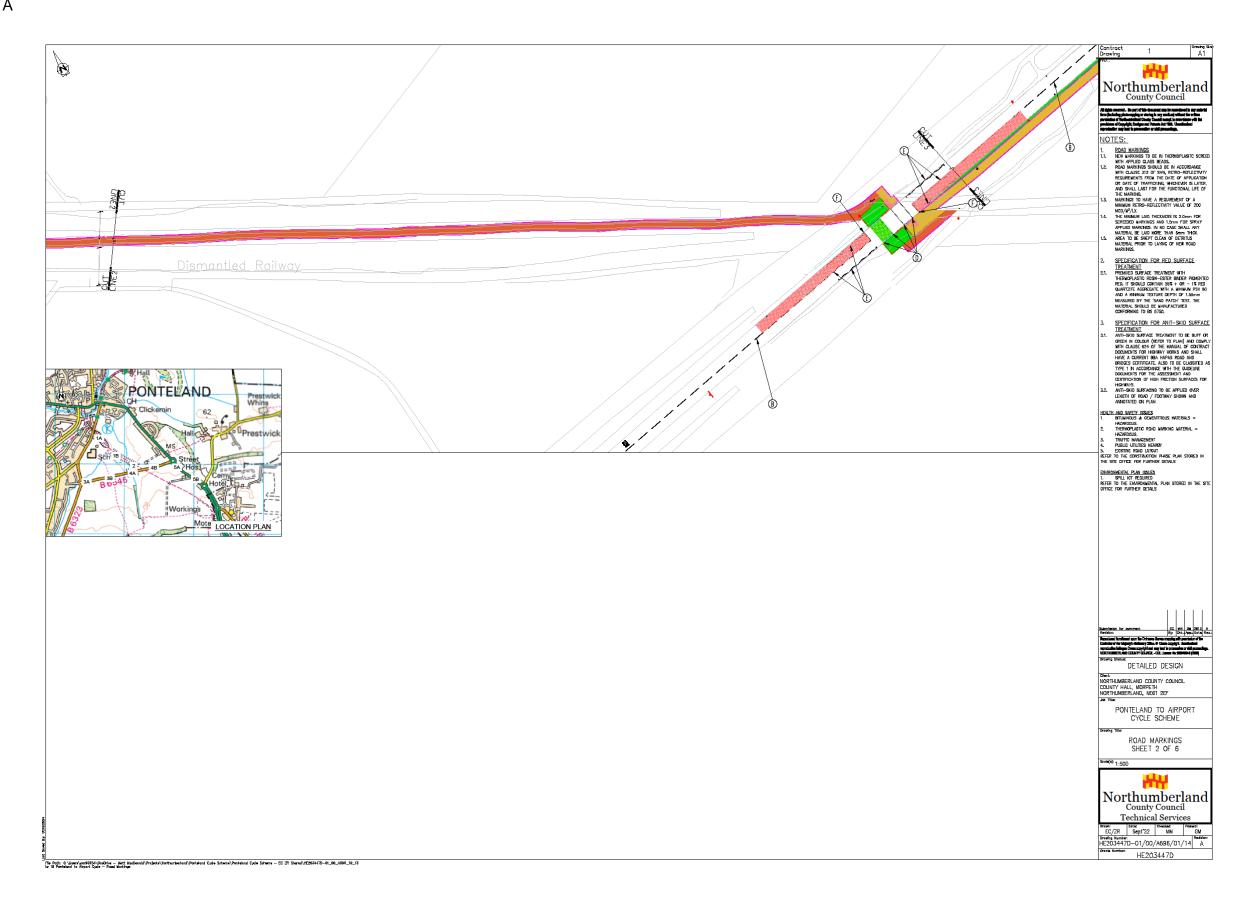
### <u>Author</u>

Report Author Aaron Dodds, Consultant Engineer

# **DECISION TAKEN**

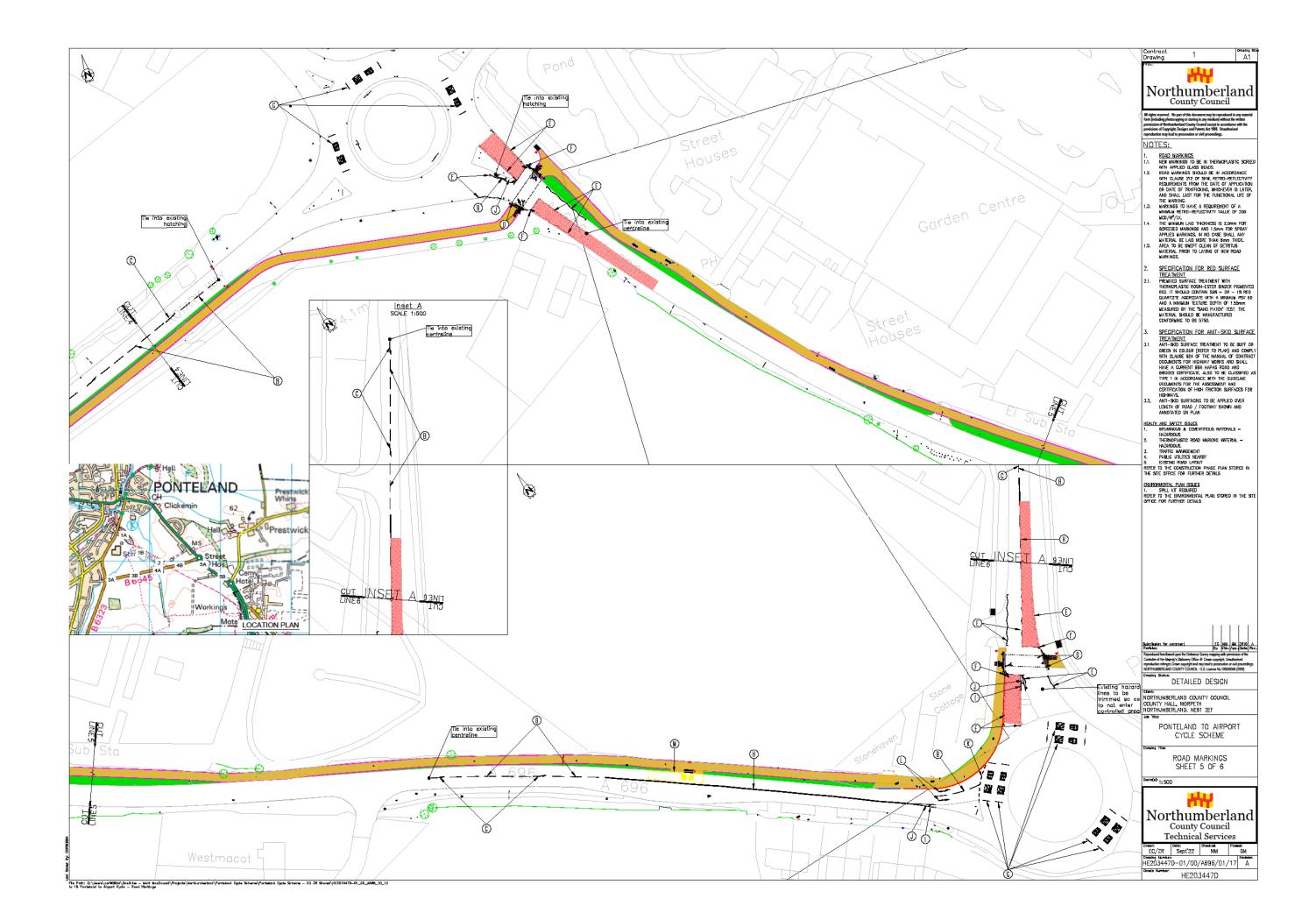
Title of Officer:	Service Director, Local Services
Subject:	Proposed new 40 MPH speed limit at B6545 Rotary Way, Ponteland.
Consultation:	Not required on the grounds of road safety, howeve statutory consultees will be informed.
Decision Taken:	To introduce a new 40 MPH speed limit at B6545 Rotary Way, Ponteland.
Signature of Director	
<b>Date</b> 06.02.23	

Appendix A









	NEW ROAD MARKING SCHEDULE									
REF	TSR&GD 2016 DIAG No	MARK (m)	GAP (m)	WIDTH (mm)	ROAD STUDS	USE	REMARKS			
A	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 15 Diag. 1024	1.6	_	2230	_	SLOW Road Marking				
B	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 2 Diag. 1004	4	2	100	White. 6m Spacing	Warning Marking	To follow existing centreline			
0	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 14 Diag. 1014	4.5	_	_	_	Deflection Arrow Marking				
0	Schedule 14 Part 2 Item 55 Diag, 1055.1	0.1	0.5	100	_	Pedestrian Crossing Stud Marking				
E	Schedule 14 Part 2 Item 51 Diag. 1001.3	2	_	100	_	Zigzag Marking				
(E)	Schedule 14 Part 2 Item 46 Diag. 1001	Transverse	_	200	_	Stop Line Marking				
(G)	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 16 Diag. 1026	2.8	_	~	_	Keep Clear Marking	Size 2800mm			
$\oplus$	Schedule 9 Part 6 Item 23 Diag. 1013.1	Continuous	_	100— 90 gap —100	White. 4.5m Spacing	Double White Line Marking	To follow existing centreline			
	Schedule 9 Part 6 Item 23 Diag. 1013.1S	Continuous	_	-	White. 4.5m Spacing	Single Solid White Line Marking				
$\bigcirc$	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 23 Diag. 1040	Varies	3	150	_	Central Hatching	1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0			
(K)	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 1 Diag. 1003.1	1	1	200	-	Roundabout Give Way Marking	To follow existing line			
	Schedule 11 Part 4 Item 20 Diag. 1038	4	_	_	_	Lane Arrow Markings	To be 10m back from give way line			
$\bigcirc$	Schedule 7 Part 4 Item 9 Diag. 1025.1	1	1	See diagram	_	Bus Stop	Top edge of Bus Stop text to be inline with bus stop sign			

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By Rich Forehor: COUNTY HALL, MORPETH
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY HALL, MORPETH
NORTHUMBERLAND, NES1 2EF
Job Title: PONTELAND TO AIRPORT CYCLE SCHEME ROAD MARKINGS SHEET 6 OF 6 Scale(\*)≥ 1:500 Northumberland County Council Technical Services 

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