



# 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, C341 FENWICK**

**Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle**

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#### **Purpose of Report**

To consider a proposal to provide a 30mph speed limit on the C341 in Fenwick near Stamfordham.

#### **Recommendations**

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

#### **Link to Corporate Plan**

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

#### **Key Issues**

- A 30mph speed limit in Fenwick was submitted as a priority for the Local Transport Plan Programme by the local ward member.
- Recent residential development means that the village now meets the minimum criteria for a 30mph speed limit.

## Delegated decisions

### Background

1. Following concerns raised by residents the local ward member submitted a 30mph speed limit in Fenwick as a priority for the Local Transport Plan Programme.
2. Previously the village did not meet the criteria for a reduced speed limit as there were few properties. The road is therefore subject to the national speed limit of 60mph. Residential development has since increased the number of properties to over 20, which is the minimum required for a 30mph speed limit.
3. The road through the village is narrow with no footways. There is a bus stop in the village which is used by school buses.
4. Guidance on speed limits set out in “Setting Local Speed Limits” (DfT Circular 01/2013), states that 30mph speed limits should be the norm through villages.
5. Traffic Advisory Leaflet 01/04 (DfT, 2004) sets out policy on achieving lower speed limits in villages. It suggests that reasonable minimum criteria for the definition of what constitutes a village, for the purpose of applying a village speed limit of 30 mph, would be that there were 20 or more houses (on one or both sides of the road) and a minimum length of 600 metres.
6. Residential development has taken place in recent years which has increased the number of individual properties in Fenwick to over 20. The length of road proposed for the speed limit is approximately 600 metres.
7. Statutory consultees were informed of the proposal to implement the 30mph speed limit. A copy of the consultation plan is shown in Appendix A.
8. Eleven responses were received, nine in favour of the proposal (82%), one against and one neutral. A copy of the responses is shown in Appendix B.
9. The local Ward Member is in favour of the proposal.
10. It is therefore recommended that the proposed 30mph speed limit is implemented.

### Implications Arising out of the Report

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

## Delegated decisions

<b>Procurement</b>	None
<b>Human Resources</b>	None
<b>Property</b>	None
<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>	Statutory consultees have been consulted.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	None
<b>Wards</b>	Ponteland West

### **Background papers:**

File ref: HE233725

### **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**

## Delegated decisions

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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 E N T R A L	Other Relevant Comments
1		Please add my consent to the proposal that Fenwick becomes a 30 mile zone. This is essential to health and safety of an area that has increased significantly over the last decade and is the residence of a number of families.
1		I am writing to you in connection with the proposed changes to the speed limit through Fenwick on the C341. As a resident of Fenwick, I believe that the 30mph speed limit would benefit the village greatly, and would improve the safety for residents and walkers greatly. Many motorists drive through at 60mph and more, and it is so dangerous. I fully support this proposal.
1		I am writing to provide my support to the proposal to reduce the speed limit through Fenwick to 30mph. As a resident of Fenwick I have serious concerns over the speed vehicles currently travel through the village in particular around the blind corner in front of my home.
1		I am writing with regards to item ref HE2233724D - Proposed 30mph Speed limit C341 Fenwick. Please accept this email as my support for this proposal. Having lived in Fenwick for 5 years and spent a great deal of time walking and cycling in Fenwick I think this would make a significant positive impact on the safety of pedestrians and cyclist safety through the hamlet. Road users approach Fenwick at very high speed and the pedestrian footpath only serves a small stretch of this very fast road. I very much hope this proposal is approved. There seems little reason for it not to be.
1		Just a quick email to say we fully support the proposal for a 30mph speed limit in Fenwick. Fenwick is becoming much more populated and there are several families with children and more planning permission granted. As there is no footpath through Fenwick we frequently walk on the road and have encounter many fast cars passing. We would feel much safer if a 30mph zone was in force.
1		Just a short note to support this and stress how important we believe reducing the speed limit is in Fenwick. My children (and others) currently have to cross a 60 mile an hour road on a blind bend to access the public and school bus stops. Please do approve this and move the speed reduction process forward as quickly as possible. It is a long standing and very worrying safety concern.
1		I'm writing in support of the proposed speed restriction. I have lived in the hamlet for years and witnessed some very fast driving as people pass through. At my end of the hamlet (nearest to Maften and the small bridge over Fenwick Burn) the road is very straight and this in itself encourages people to speed The hamlet is becoming more populated with many people walking dogs, children playing and people exercising. In the absence of pavements, reducing the speed of passing cars will help our community stay safe. I have looked at the map and I suggest that the speed limit begins before the bridge, rather than after. It is a narrower part of the road and people have to slow down for it anyway.
1		I write to express my opposition to the proposal to reduce the speed limit on the C342 at Fenwick to 30mph. This is unnecessary as the road is not a busy road and speeding traffic through the hamlet is not a problem.

## Delegated decisions

1		<p>The introduction of 30 mile per hour speed limit would be very much welcomed. Traffic speed through Fenwick and as there are more residents here now it is in my opinion time to introduce the speed restriction.</p>
	1	<p>I refer to your recent correspondence in which you invite us to offer our comments on the above proposal.</p> <p>I would inform you that as an Emergency Service we may be required to use the above road(s) for access and egress in the event of being activated to attend an emergency call, or to convey patients to hospital for out-patient appointments. Although I appreciate the possible need for restrictions to improve road safety, I must point out that such restrictions would affect this Service in the following way:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ambulances activating to emergencies within the locality could suffer a reduction in response times, although these times may still be within statutory limits;</li> <li>2. Patients being transported from the locality could be subjected to some discomfort as a result of the proposed restriction.</li> <li>3. The maintenance costs of our vehicles may be increased due to the additional usage of shock absorbers and suspension etc.</li> </ol> <p>I would thank you for your consultation on this matter and offer our support for the on-going road safety programme</p>
1		<p>I am very much in agreement with this, as a resident of Fenwick we often see cars speeding past our houses. There are a number of children in the area who get on and off the school bus in Fenwick and a 30 mph will help the safety of our children. There are no footpaths either on the road so slowing cars would enable walkers etc to have more time to move off the road.</p> <p>I look forward to seeing this 30 mph being enforced in our area.</p>
<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

## DECISION TAKEN

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

Paul Jones - Service Director - Local Services

**Subject:**

PROPOSED 30mph SPEED LIMIT, C341, FENWICK (STAMFORDHAM)

**Consultation**

Eleven responses:

9 in favour

1 neutral

1 against

**Decision Taken:**

The proposed 30mph speed limit should be implemented.

Signature of Director



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**Date**

17<sup>th</sup> July 2023

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