



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

Croftway Academy Blyth – Proposed 20 MPH Speed Limit, Parking Restrictions & Road Humps

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

22 February 2023

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce a 20 MPH speed limit, additional parking restrictions and road humps in the vicinity of Croftway Academy school in Blyth.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the 20 MPH speed limit, parking restrictions and road humps adjacent to Croftway Academy Blyth are introduced as proposed.

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 County Council has received concerns regarding traffic speeds and obstructive and indiscriminate parking in the residential streets near Croftway Academy Blyth.
2. The provision of a 20 MPH speed limit adjacent to Croftway Academy Blyth aligns with the County Council’s current policy.
3. The scheme is supported by the local County Councillor and school representatives.
4. The scheme is to be funded by the 2022/23 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

Background

The introduction of speed limit changes on the streets adjacent to Croftway Academy in Blyth forms part of the 2022/23 Local Transport Plan. The scheme ties in with the County Council's road safety initiative to introduce reduced speed limits adjacent to all schools in Northumberland provided it is feasible to do so. Evidence suggests that measures of this kind adjacent to schools provide a safer environment for all road users.

Concerns have been raised regarding vehicles speeding through the roads situated outside of the school, which presents road safety issues for pedestrians such as schoolchildren, cyclists and those navigating through the route with the risk of collisions occurring.

As a result, a 20 MPH speed limit is proposed to be introduced in order to alleviate these concerns and covers the areas identified below in Figure 1. The measures will consist of new regulatory traffic signs along with road markings in the form of roundels at the entrance of the estate to indicate the new speed limit.

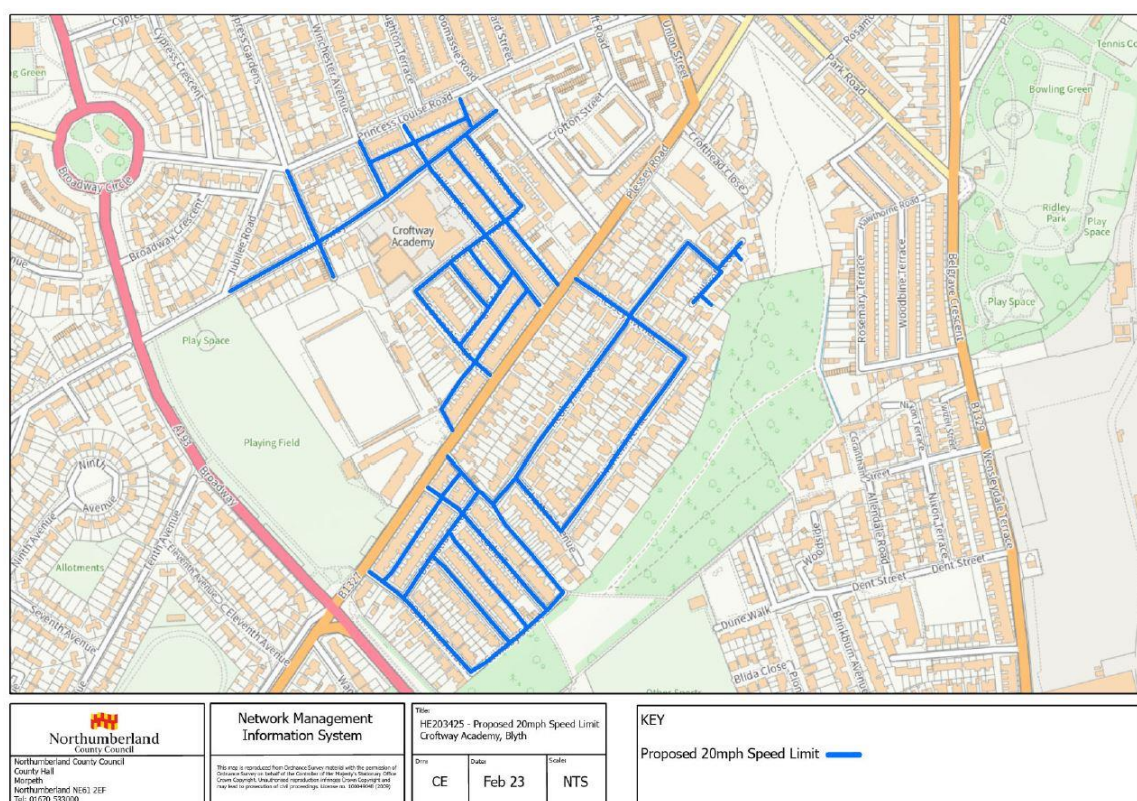


Fig. 1: Proposed 20 MPH speed limit extents at Croftway Academy in Blyth

Road humps are also proposed on the longer stretches of road outside the school on Kingsway and William Street in order to promote slower speeds and coincide with the new 20 MPH speed limit. The locations of these on both sides of the carriageway can be observed in Figure 2 below.

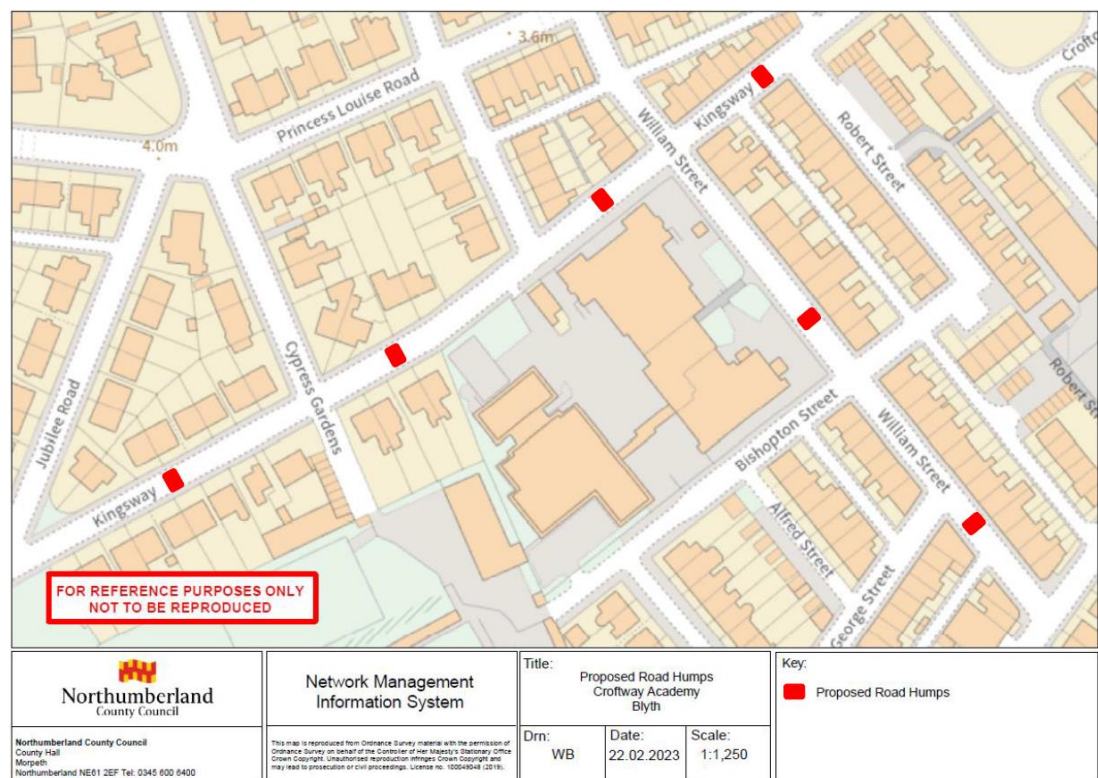


Fig. 2: Proposed road hump locations at Croftway Academy in Blyth

Obstructive and indiscriminate parking primarily during school start and end times has been observed at junctions and directly outside the school entrances which impedes on forward visibility in an area where vulnerable pedestrians such as younger schoolchildren are more prominent.

As a result, waiting restrictions in the form of double and single yellow lines are proposed to improve the flow of traffic and discourage dangerous parking, whereas no stopping restrictions in the form of an additional ‘School Keep Clear’ zig-zag marking is proposed at the school entrance situated on Bishopston Street. These proposed restrictions are outlined below in Figure 3.

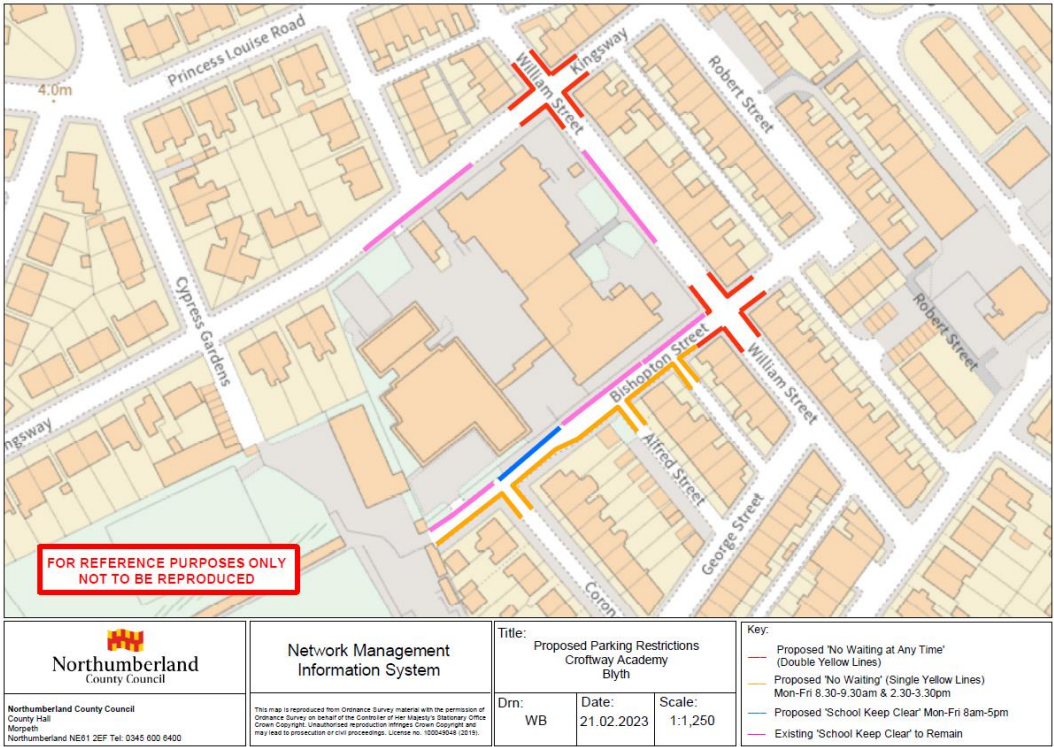


Fig. 3: Proposed parking restrictions at Croftway Academy in Blyth

Details of the proposals can be found in Appendix A. They are intended to increase road safety by reducing speed limits and to protect the amenity of the area overall. 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 through the LTP 2022/23 programme
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Orders
Procurement	None
Human Resources	None
Property	None
Equalities Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	N/A
Risk Assessment	The proposal is designed to reduce the risks associated with driving at speed and obstructive and indiscriminate parking
Crime & Disorder	Regulations in place to carry out enforcement
Customer Consideration	A reduction in speed will lead to a safer environment for all road users
Carbon reduction	Speed reduction assists with carbon reduction
Ward	Wensleydale

Delegated Decision

Background Papers

File reference – S:\Highways\PROJECT\20\HE Minor Improvements\HE203435D – Croftway Primary School, Blyth

Appendix A – Scheme Plan

Author

Report Author **William Binks, Programme Officer**

Delegated Decision

DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer	Service Director, Local Services
Subject	Proposed 20 MPH Speed Limit, Parking Restrictions & Road Humps at Croftway Academy, Blyth
Consultation	Not required on grounds of road safety, however statutory consultees have been informed
Decision Taken	To introduce a new 20 MPH speed limit, parking restrictions and road humps at Croftway Academy in Blyth

Signature of Director



Date

14.03.23

Appendix A – Scheme Plan

