



Northumberland

County Council

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY SERVICE DIRECTOR - LOCAL SERVICES

Paul Jones

Haltwhistle Academy School 20 MPH Speed Limit

Cabinet Member: Councillor John Riddle

24 May 2023

Purpose of Report

This report sets out the background to the proposal to introduce a 20 MPH speed limit in the vicinity of Haltwhistle Academy.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the 20 MPH speed limit adjacent to Haltwhistle Academy is introduced as proposed.

Link to Corporate Plan

This report is relevant to the following key themes in the Corporate Plan for 2023-26:

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

Key Issues

1. Northumberland County Council has received concerns regarding traffic speeds in residential streets near Haltwhistle Academy.
2. The provision of a 20 MPH speed limit adjacent to Haltwhistle Academy aligns with the Council’s current policy.
3. The proposal is supported by the local County Councillor and school representatives.
4. The scheme is to be funded through the 2023/24 Local Transport Plan (LTP) programme.

Background

The introduction of speed limit changes on the streets adjacent to Haltwhistle Academy 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 at the gateways of each restriction to indicate the new speed limit.



Fig. 1: Proposed 20 MPH speed limit extents at Haltwhistle Academy

Details of the proposals can be found in Appendix B. They are intended to increase road safety by reducing speed limits and to protect the amenity of the

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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.

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Implications Arising out of the Report

Policy	Consistent with existing policies
Finance and value for money	Scheme will be financed through the LTP 2023/24 programme
Legal	Motorists will be required to comply with the Traffic Regulation Order
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
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	Haltwhistle

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Background Papers

File reference – S:\Highways\PROJECT\21\HE Minor Improvements\HE213579D - Haltwhistle Academy

Appendix A – Scheme Plan

Author

Report Author **Conor Edgar, Technical Assistant**

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DECISION TAKEN

Title of Officer	Service Director, Local Services
Subject	Proposed 20 MPH Speed Limit at Haltwhistle Academy
Consultation	Not required for a reduced speed limit – NCC policy is to introduce 20 MPH speed limits at all schools provided it is feasible to do so. However, statutory consultees have been informed.
Decision Taken	To introduce a new 20 MPH speed limit at Haltwhistle Academy

Signature of Director



Date

21st July 2023
