

Agenda Item No. 4(a)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER-HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

11 February 2021

Report of the Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

PETITION REQUESTING THE REDUCTION OF THE SPEED LIMIT ON
GRINDLEFORD ROAD, CALVER

(1) **Purpose of Report** To inform the Cabinet Member of the investigations carried out following the receipt of a petition requesting the consideration of a lower speed limit on Grindleford Road, Calver, Derbyshire.

(2) **Information and Analysis** Receipt of the petition was acknowledged by the Cabinet Member on 23 January 2020 (Minute No.1/20 refers). The petition contains 42 signatures and reads as follows:

“We, residents of Grindleford Road, S32, humbly request the reduction of the speed limit of 50mph on this road. This road has become a racetrack for motor bike users since the road was promoted as a racetrack on a website on the internet. Every Saturday and Sunday there is a constant flow of motor bikes speeding from 8:30am to 10pm.

Clubs practice in engaging high speeds of 80 plus mph and the number of participants sometimes number 28-30. Smaller groups of 1-15 enjoy the possibility of reaching speeds of 80 plus mph as they open the throttle on their engines resulting in unimaginable noise which we residents should not have to tolerate. This is unacceptable behaviour in a National Park and should be curtailed as soon as possible.

Added to this, sports cars are now using this facility to speed at 80 plus mph. As the motor bikes and sports cars overtake cars at a terrific speed it is inevitable that an accident is waiting to happen. It should be noted that other areas of this road are restricted to 30 or 40mph.”

A supporting letter explaining the financial gain to the Police by monitoring this road and the environmental damage of high speed vehicles was also provided by the lead petitioner.

Officer Comment

The section of the B6001 referred to in the petition is the 50mph section from its junction with the A625 in Calver through to the junction with the B6521 New Road, to the south of Grindleford village (See Appendix 1).

In January 2006, the Department for Transport published guidance circular 01/2006 (now replaced by circular 01/2013) on setting local speed limits which sought a common national approach on the setting of limits, highlighting the need to manage speed in a way that is appropriate for the road function and local characteristics. Following release of this guidance, the Secretary of State ordered a countrywide review of all 'A' and 'B' classified roads. This review has been completed in Derbyshire. The B6001 was one of many A and B class roads that was reviewed with changes to speed limits implemented where appropriate, including the introduction of a 50mph speed limit on the section described in the petition. At the time this change to the speed limit was largely governed by the injury collision rate of the route.

Currently, a 30mph speed limit is in place for the village of Calver before it changes to a 50mph speed limit on the B6001 to the north of the junction with the A625. The B6001 remains at 50mph for approximately 1 mile, before a short section of 40mph speed limit prior to entering the 30mph for the village of Grindleford. The B6001 is a principal link road within the Peak District National Park (PDNP) and is an HGV route.

Speed limits are set in accordance with the County Council's own Speed Management Protocol (See Appendix 2) and the criteria laid down by the Department of Transport, mentioned previously.

In order for speed limits to be effective, they need to be appropriate for the nature of the road and how it appears to a road user. If a speed limit is seen by motorists as being unrealistically low, it is unlikely to lead to lower speeds.

It must be remembered that speed limits are the maximum speed at which vehicles may legally travel, they are not target speeds: Motorists should always reduce their speed, when, for example:

- the road layout presents hazards, such as bends;
- you are sharing the road with pedestrians;
- there are adverse weather conditions; or
- you are driving at night – as it is harder to see other road users and possible obstructions.

The report of excessive speeds is a matter for the Police/CREST (Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team) who are responsible for the enforcement of speed limits. CREST is the enforcement arm of the Derby and

Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership and also contributes to the operations the Police perform. For information, please a link to the CREST website below:
<https://www.crestderbyshire.org/about-us/contact-us/>

Officers can confirm that on 3 January 2020, a petition regarding the B6001 was acknowledged by the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner. A reply letter was sent to the lead petitioner explaining that this is an operational matter which falls within the remit of Derbyshire Constabulary and the petition was forwarded onto the Constabulary's Traffic Management Officer for information and attention as necessary.

A letter dated 15 January 2020 to the lead petitioner from the Constabulary's Traffic Management Officer explains that Derbyshire County Council is responsible for the setting of speed limits and the Police for enforcing them. It mentions that Grindleford Road, Calver and linking roads do not suffer from a significant number of reported injury collisions, therefore, the siting of a speed camera cannot be justified. It also reports that the mobile enforcement team does operate at two locations on the B6521 Main Road, Grindleford, which are weather dependent and subject to risk assessment.

Officers can report that a speed survey was carried out in October 2020. No speeding issues have been identified by the Police within the 40mph and 50mph limit, on the Section of the B6001 from Grindleford to Calver. The Police reported on the last two visits to this location they have had 0 offences and 1 offence respectively.

The Police have also reported, on the last two occasions that they have visited the Grindleford sites (located within the 30mph section of the Village), they have reported 22 and 11 offences respectively. The Police also mention that they cannot site mobile camera vans at these locations. These sites are suitable for enforcement by the Police motorcycle which, in the main, is not a winter option.

The Police also mention that the village of Grindleford is not a problematic area in terms of reported injury collisions. However, in light of concerns raised and the offences recorded previously, they have highlighted this location for attention of the Roads Policing Team.

Derbyshire County Council receives many requests for the introduction of traffic calming measures, which far outweigh the limited funding available for such schemes. The Council's funds must therefore be targeted at areas with a history of speed-related collisions resulting in personal injury, prioritised to those locations with the greatest number of collisions, with pattern and severity also taken into account. Measures can only be introduced at locations where there is an identifiable problem (e.g. trend in collisions) and will be

chosen based on the likelihood of an improvement to the road safety record being achieved.

The Department for Transport guidance and the County Council's Speed Management Protocol identifies that a rural speed limit of 40mph may be considered in very exceptional circumstances, in an area of outstanding natural beauty or across, or adjacent to, unenclosed common land; or if they form part of a recommended route for vulnerable road users. Such a special application would need, however, to be done in association with the Department for Transport and in discussion with a national park authority. Bearing this criteria in mind, officers do not agree that a 40mph limit is appropriate on this section of the B6001.

The introduction of rural 50mph speed limits can be considered where there are a high number of bends, junctions or accesses and a high level of injury collisions.

An investigation of the Police data base for Recorded Injury Collisions shows that in the latest three year period, 1 August 2017 to 31 July 2020, there have been no recorded collisions over the length of the B6001 from its junction with the A625 to its junction of the B6521. The current 50mph speed limit here, from a recorded injury collision point of view, is working well.

Considering the nature of this section of the B6001, and the good collision history record, officers are of the opinion that it is consistent with the current guidance in 2013 Setting Local Speed Limits and the County Council's Speed Management Protocol for a 50mph road. Furthermore, traffic calming measures at this location are not justified at this time.

In addition to Traffic calming measures and the reduction of speed limits, where appropriate, the County Council's Road Safety section co-ordinate programmes of road safety training, education and publicity campaigns. These aim to raise awareness of different road safety issues and are closely linked to the Government's Think! Campaign and include Shiny side up, which is aimed at encouraging motorcyclists to travel safely on the County's roads.

Local Member Comments

Councillor Twigg was notified and made the following comment:

"I would like to support the Parish council I feel this is a dangerous road to travel at fast speeds."

(3) Financial Considerations There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

(4) **Other considerations**

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property, social value and transport considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No

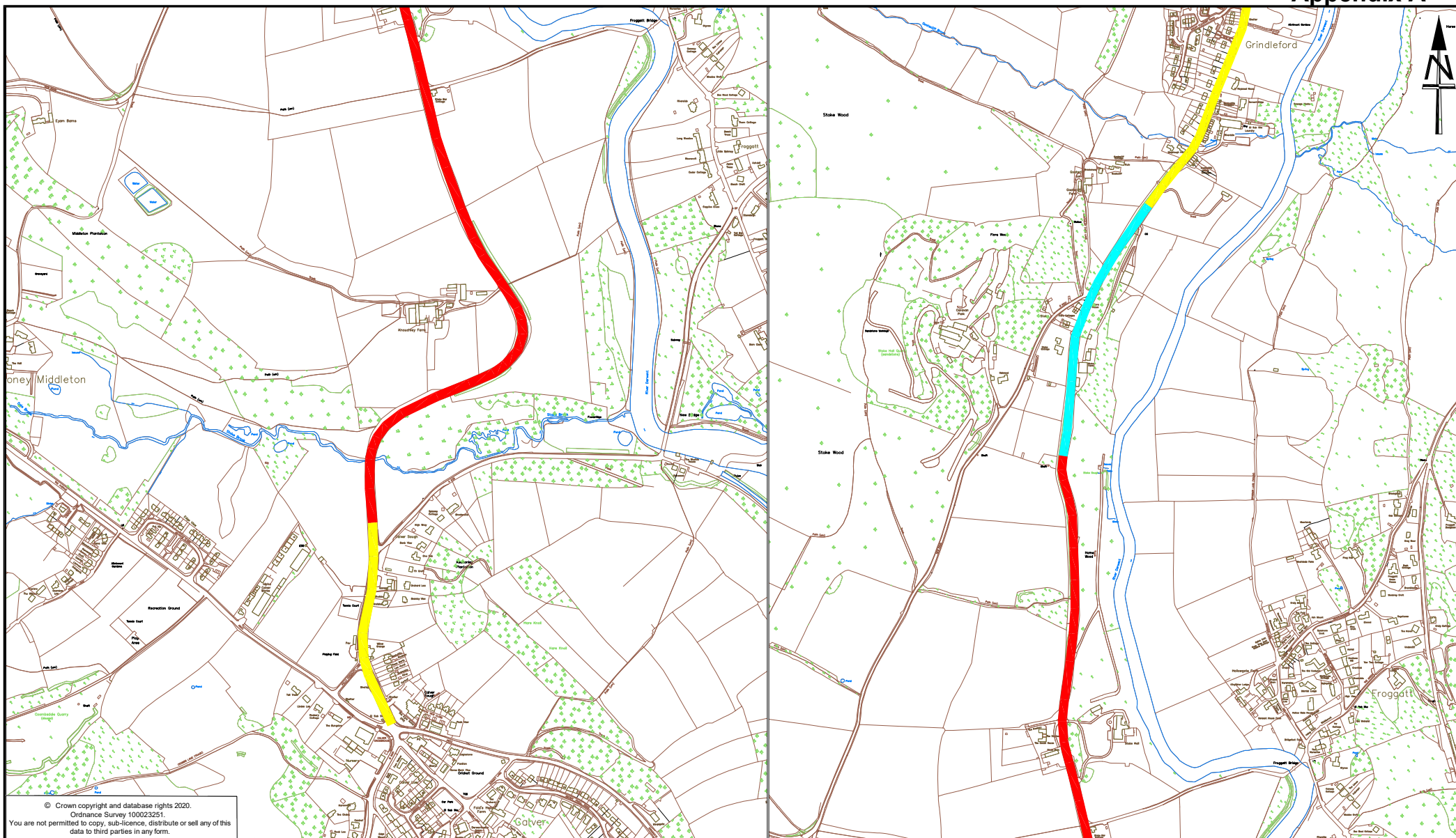
(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That:

- 8.1 A reduction to a 40mph speed limit on Grindleford Road, Calver is not justified at this time as the current 50mph speed limit is appropriate.
- 8.2 The reports of excessive speed will be reported to the Police/CREST (Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team).
- 8.3 Officers will arrange for a 14 day speed survey to be carried out in the summer 2021 when it is envisaged traffic flows will be back to normal levels.
- 8.4 The Local Member, Lead petitioner and Grindleford Parish Council be informed accordingly.

Tim Gregory
Director – Economy, Transport and Environment



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TIM GREGORY
Strategic Director
Economy, Transport and Environment

KEY:

- EXISTING 30MPH SPEED LIMIT
- EXISTING 40MPH SPEED LIMIT
- EXISTING 50MPH SPEED LIMIT

PROJECT TITLE

**B6001
SPEED LIMIT
PLAN**

DRAWING TITLE

APPENDIX 1

**DRAWN
PHIL BRAISBY**

Date **23/10/20**

**CHECKED
LEE WRIGHT**

Date **23/10/20**

**APPROVED
LEE WRIGHT**

Date **23/10/20**

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Agenda Item No. 6(e)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET

16 November 2017

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**DERBY AND DERBYSHIRE ROAD SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - APPROVAL
OF SPEED MANAGEMENT PROTOCOL ENGINEERING TECHNICAL ANNEX
(HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE)**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek Cabinet approval of the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership Engineering Technical Annexes to the proposed Speed Management Protocol (SMP).

(2) **Information and Analysis** In order to progress the development of the proposed Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership SMP, policies and procedures for all partner organisations, i.e. Derbyshire Constabulary, Casualty Reduction Enforcement Support Team (CREST) and Derby City Council, need to be reviewed and compiled into a series of technical annexes. The annexes need to reflect the current practice and priorities of each of the partner organisations in dealing with speed related matters.

The demands upon the Council's highway service and its budgets are high and it is important that requests for improvements are dealt with in a consistent manner with regard to delivering the most cost effective way of continuing and maintaining road safety on the network.

The intention of the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership, Engineering Technical Annex will therefore be to categorise all engineering measures available and to identify the circumstances where such measures will and will not be used.

In order to facilitate this, it has been necessary to combine and update all existing technical policies in relation to any engineering measures that may be deployed in resolving speed related matters, as well as defining the conditions or criteria that will be applied for each type of measure.

The measures employed to help resolve speed related matters, with accompanying description and criteria that are covered within the Technical Annex, are:

- Speed Limits (urban and rural)

- 20mph Speed Limits and Zones
- Traffic Regulation Orders
- Speed Limit Changes
- Vehicle Activated Signs
- Horizontal Traffic Calming (build-outs, chicanes and priority narrowing)
- Vertical Traffic Calming (road humps, speed cushions, speed tables, plateau)

The approval of the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership, Engineering Technical Annexes will provide a clear step to a more consistent and transparent approach to Economy, Transport and Communities Highways Traffic and Safety Engineering at this early stage of the development of the SMP.

(3) **Financial Considerations** There are no financial considerations associated with this report.

(4) **Social Value Considerations** The purpose of the SMP is to provide a consistent approach to the management of speed and concerns about speeding vehicles on the roads of Derbyshire. It aims to reduce casualties, improve the safety and quality of life for residents and those who travel through, whilst involving local communities in decisions affecting their local area. The associated technical annexes are a key aspect in supporting the SMP.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: legal, prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environmental, health, property and transport considerations.

(5) **Key Decision** No.

(6) **Call-In** Is it required that call-in be waived in respect of the decisions proposed in the report? No.

(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Neill Bennett, extension 38659.

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION** That Cabinet approves the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership, Engineering Technical Annexes to the proposed Speed Management Protocol.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership - Speed Management Protocol

Engineering Technical Annex

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1 SPEED LIMITS

Derbyshire County Council is responsible for setting speed limits on all roads in the County, and Derby City is responsible for those in its jurisdiction, and motorways and trunk roads – the M1, A38, A50, A52 (east of Derby), A5111, parts of the A6 and the A628 – which are the responsibility of Highways England. Any queries about speed limits on these routes can be directed via e-mail to info@highwaysengland.co.uk or by calling 0300 123 5000.

Speed limits are introduced to ensure greater road safety and should seek to balance this with accessibility and environmental objectives, improving the quality of life for local communities. Any changes we make to speed limits must adhere to criteria as set out by the Department for Transport (DfT).

Speed limits are the maximum speed at which vehicles may legally travel – they are not target speeds: You should always reduce your speed when:

- the road layout presents hazards, such as bends;
- you are sharing the road with pedestrians and;
- there are adverse weather conditions; or
- you are driving at night – as it is harder to see other road users and possible obstructions.

Balancing the need to travel and overcoming social exclusion and strengthening rural communities are also key, but must be carefully assessed against reducing road traffic collision. The promotion and education of safe and considerate driving and encouraging road users to adopt appropriate speeds on our roads is also important to the success of speed limits. The responsibility for the enforcement of speed limits lies solely with the Police and instances of speeding can be reported to your local Police officers by dialling their 101 non-emergency number. In future the development of an area on the partnership website with appropriate links will facilitate the reporting of all speed related matters.

In January 2006, the DfT published guidance circular 01/2006 on ‘Setting Local Speed Limits’* which sought a common national approach on the setting of limits, highlighting the need to manage speed in a way that is appropriate for the road function and local characteristics. Following release of this guidance, routes in Derbyshire were reviewed and changes to speed limits implemented where appropriate - [* circular 01/2006 has now been replaced by circular 01/2013 – see link below]:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/setting-local-speed-limits>

1.1 Speed limits in urban areas

DfT guidance states:

“Urban roads by their nature are complex as they need to provide for safe travel on foot, bicycle and by motorised traffic. Lower speeds benefit all urban road

users, and setting appropriate speed limits is therefore an important factor in improving urban safety.”

On roads where a recognised system of street lighting is present (where there are 3 or more lighting columns not more than 183m apart) the default speed limit will be **30mph**, unless there are signs in place indicating a different limit, and will be signed accordingly where the street lights start. Such roads will have a significant degree of frontage development with pedestrian activity and the presence of driveways, junctions, traffic signals and crossings. By law we cannot put in additional 30mph (repeater) signs where street lighting is present.

A **40mph** speed limit is generally appropriate on higher quality suburban roads away with less frontage development but with side roads, some bends and traffic signals or pedestrian crossings. Repeater signs are required.

In exceptional circumstances, **50mph** speed limits may be introduced on roads where the environment and characteristics allow this speed to be achieved safely – e.g. dual carriageways, radial routes or bypasses. Higher speed limits encourages urban through traffic to use routes of this nature rather than less suitable residential streets.

Where roads do not have a speed limit and are unlit, the national limit applies and drivers are expected to drive to the conditions. The following link provides a summary of national speed limits with reference to vehicle type:-

<https://www.gov.uk/speed-limits>

1.2 Speed limits in rural areas

DfT guidance stipulates that **30mph** is considered the norm in villages, based on a simple criteria relating to the density of frontage development and distance:

- There should be **20** or more houses on one or both sides of the road, over a length of around 600m. This can be less if the level and density of development exceeds the 20 or more houses criterion. In instances where there are less than 20 houses, an extra allowance can be given for key buildings – i.e. churches, community centres, schools, etc.
- A preferred length of 600m is desirable to avoid too many changes of speed limit along the route, which could lead to motorists disregarding the changes.

In the absence of street lighting, 30mph repeater signs will be required.

70mph is the maximum speed limit for cars on dual carriageways and motorways.

The national speed limit applies to single carriageway roads (maximum of 60mph) that have very sparse development, are of a high quality, and have a strategic function.

Lowering the speed limit to **50mph** can be considered where there are a high number of bends, junctions or accesses and a high level of injury collisions.

A speed limit of **40mph** may be considered in very exceptional circumstances in an area of outstanding national beauty or across, or adjacent to, unenclosed common land; or if they form part of a recommended route for vulnerable road users. Such a special application would need, however, to be done in association with the DfT and in discussion with a national park authority.

Speed limits on single carriageway rural roads should take into account: the collision history, the road's function, existing average traffic speed, level of use by vulnerable road users, the road's geometry and engineering, and the environment, including the level of road-side development.

Terminal signs (at the start of a speed limit) must be positioned as close as practicable to the start of a built-up area. Where forward visibility is restricted, signs may be extended outwards to meet standard forward visibility requirements.

1.3 20mph Speed Limits and Zones

These can be differentiated as follows:-

- 20mph limits, which consist of just a speed limit change to 20mph which is indicated by the speed limit (and repeater) signs, and
- 20mph zones, are designed to be “self-enforcing” due to traffic calming measures that are introduced along with the change in the speed limit.

Note – refer to Table 1 in section 4 for consideration criteria

20mph speed limits/zones are introduced sparingly, with casualty reduction being a priority for the selection of such schemes.

A number of 20mph zones are in operation in Derbyshire. They should be self-enforcing and so are usually only appropriate in areas where speeds are already naturally low or where a suitable package of traffic calming measures can be used to ensure compliance with the speed limit.

1.4 Traffic Regulation Orders

The imposition of any new speed limit, or amendment to an existing speed limit, requires a Traffic Regulation Order to be made. This is a legal process which includes a statutory consultation with public bodies such as the Police, Borough/District and Parish/Town Councils. A public notice period is also required – where details are advertised both on site and in the local press - to give local residents and road users the opportunity to comment on the proposal. Any representations need to be considered that in turn may

result in changes to the original proposal. Where powers are delegated, representations can be dealt with by a delegated senior officer.

Once a proposal has been approved, the necessary signs are ordered and arrangements made for them to be in place on a certain date to coincide with the date the Order comes into force; the Order is then enforceable by the Police.

This entire process – from investigation to implementation – can take between 6 and 12 months to complete.

Introducing a Traffic Regulation Order is both a time consuming and costly process. We receive many requests for speed limits and therefore apply a points-based scoring system to allow such requests to be prioritised. This allows resources to be better targeted at those areas which highlight an issue with collisions. The ranking scheme is included below.

1.4.1 Speed limit ranking scheme

Subject	Parameters	Points range	Points scored
Collisions	Serious and Fatal Slight Non-Injury Sub-total score Divided by crash exposure value: (volume (volume per day) x length (m) x 365) x 2 Total collision component score	10 5 1 = =	
Capital scheme or developer funded	Yes No	5 0	
Road hierarchy	A road B road C road Unclassified	5 4 3 2	
Enforceability (based upon 85 percentile speed)	New limit self-enforcing Supporting engineering features required Regular Police enforcement	5 0 -5	
Benefits of scheme to vulnerable road users	Possible improvement No change Deterioration	2 0 -2	

Subject	Parameters	Points range	Points scored
Benefits to schools	Possible improvement No change Deterioration	2 0 -2	
Benefits to elderly/mobility impaired	Possible improvement No change Deterioration	2 0 -2	
Benefits to local facilities/businesses	Possible improvement No change Deterioration	2 0 -2	
Effect on emergency services response times	Possible improvement No change Deterioration	2 0 -2	
Support from residents	Yes No overall support Residents not in support	2 0 -2	
Support from community and/or special interest groups	Yes No support forthcoming Against proposals	2 0 -2	
Cost of speed limit, including advertisements and associated works	<£5,000 £5,000 to £7,500 £7,500 to £10,000 £10,000 to £15,000 > £15,000	10 8 6 3 1	
		Total	

1.5 Speed limit change

Excess speeds alone are unlikely to justify the lowering of an existing speed limit. The speed limit will have been implemented according to DfT guidance and will be appropriate for the character of the road and level of built-up development. The vast majority of drivers will choose to drive at speeds they feel are appropriate and unnaturally low speed limits will be ignored. Compliance could be achieved by introducing a package of traffic calming measures but, in the absence of a speed-related injury collision history, the expenditure would be difficult to justify.

1.6 Community speed watch

Community Speed Watch is administered by the Police and will be an option in dealing with speed related matters. In future, the development of an area on the partnership website with appropriate links will facilitate the reporting of all speed related matters

2 VEHICLE ACTIVATED SIGNS (VAS)

2.1 Introduction

This guidance puts in place detailed procedures to be followed in considering the installation of permanent, temporary or mobile VAS.

VAS have become a popular, effective, less intrusive form of speed-reduction which can be used as an alternative to more physical measures. These are electronic signs which display a symbol and/or message when triggered by a vehicle travelling at a specific pre-set speed – the threshold speed usually being set at 10% + 2mph above the posted speed limit (e.g. 35mph in a 30mph limit). They are often introduced to supplement rather than replace traditional signing and lining, and are aimed at addressing specific road safety problems. However, note that those displaying a speed limit sign only should be set at speed limit +2mph, see criteria 2.2(b) below).

Note – refer to Table 1 in section 4 for consideration criteria

Both **permanent** and **temporary** VAS measures have been used in Derbyshire and Derby City. Research has shown that the effectiveness of permanent VAS reduces as motorists become familiar with them. The advantages of a temporary VAS is that it can be moved around between a number of sites; remaining at one site for a number of months before being moved to another site before motorists become familiar with it. The sign can then be redeployed to the same site several months later to retain its effectiveness.

VAS have been developed in Derbyshire and Derby City to address not only problems of exceeding speed limits, but also to encourage drivers to approach hazards – such as bends or junctions – at a safe speed, and to provide hazard warnings where conventional signing alone has not been effective. Analysis of existing sites has shown that, where these signs have been introduced in response to injury collision problems, they have resulted in immediate and ongoing improvements to the casualty record. There are still relatively few signs of this nature in Derbyshire and Derby City but there are concerns that to introduce them on a widespread basis would cause drivers to become used to them and their effect would diminish. In response to these concerns we apply a stringent set of criteria to each application we receive, to guard against over-proliferation and to ensure that signs are introduced where they are most needed. This allows the Councils to determine their priorities for investment in VAS and to inform other bodies about where signs will be deployed and where installation is likely to be refused.

The protocol dictates that all of the following criteria must be met for VAS:

- 2.1(a) VAS should be considered at sites that have a **collision history associated with inappropriate speed**, or a hazard, that has not been satisfactorily remedied by standard signing. Other signing means must have been tried and have failed; the site must have been subject to a recent speed survey to determine justification for a VAS installation.

- 2.1(b) VAS displaying a speed limit should be located at sites which have a history of a **minimum of 6 injury collisions within 1km over the previous 3 years** and where speed has been a factor in some, if not all the collisions.
- 2.1(c) VAS displaying a speed limit should be located at sites where the results of traffic surveys show the 85th percentile speed is at least 10% over the speed limit +2mph, measured over a 7-day period. [The 85th percentile is the speed at which up to 85% of the traffic is travelling].
- 2.1(d) Hazard warning VAS should be located at sites which have a history of a **minimum of 6 injury collisions within 1km over the previous 3 years**, and where the hazard has been the cause.
- 2.1(e) Requests for VAS that meet these criteria should be prioritised on the basis of a calculated estimate of casualty reduction benefits.
- 2.1(f) The flexibility of temporary VAS means they are the preferred option but the decision on which type of VAS to be used should be made on a case by case basis. To retain effectiveness, temporary VAS should remain on site for **no longer than 3 months and should not be redeployed at the same site within 6 months**.

2.2 Installation and Monitoring Criteria

- 2.2(a) VAS warning of a hazard should be set to operate at the 50th percentile speed measured before installation. However, discretion may be used to change this depending on the road conditions.
- 2.2(b) VAS displaying a speed limit should normally be set to operate at 10% + 2mph above the posted speed limit (e.g. 35mph in a 30mph limit). However, discretion may be used to change this depending on the road conditions.
- 2.2(c) The section of road in advance of the VAS must be straight over a reasonable distance to maximise visibility to the sign.
- 2.2(d) There should be little or no vegetation or street furniture that will block the view of the sign or affect the working of the radar equipment.
- 2.2(e) There must be sufficient footway or roadside verge to install the sign. There must also be reasonable access to a power supply.
- 2.2(f) The sign should, wherever possible, not be intrusive to nearby residential properties and early consultation should be sought to establish residents' views. If the sign is proposed within the Peak District National Park, early consultation with the National Park Authority should be sought.
- 2.2(g) VAS displaying a speed limit should be located between 100 metres and 200 metres beyond the start of the posted speed limit sign, except in

urban areas with street lighting where a 30mph speed limit operates and where repeater signs are not allowed.

- 2.2(h) VAS warning of a hazard should be located between 50 metres and 100 metres in advance of that hazard.
- 2.2(i) Permanent VAS should be routinely inspected every six months and provided with regular maintenance, such as cleaning the sign face, removing any obstructing foliage and ensuring that the vehicle detection system is functioning correctly.
- 2.2(j) All VAS installations should be monitored for effectiveness by regular analysis of speed data and collision records. Any that are considered ineffective should be removed.

2.3 Permanent and Temporary VAS - Funding by Borough, District or Parish/Town Councils

Where a local council has requested a VAS, which meets criteria for inclusion in the County Council's programmes but is a low priority for installation at the County Council's expense, then the local council may fund the installation. The Funder must undertake to be responsible for all costs, including long-term maintenance for the life of the installation, and removal if required. All selection, installation and monitoring criteria above will apply, with the exception of criteria 2.1(e).

2.4 Mobile VAS

Mobile VAS differ from temporary VAS as they are completely mobile and do not require pre-prepared sites, and may be deployed in locations which would not meet the criteria for permanent or temporary sites. Currently, there are no mobile VAS operating, but are included as they may be employed in the future. Decisions on where they may be deployed, and the length of deployment, should be taken through established selection and consultation procedures of the sign's owner, either the County Council, Derby City or Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership. The owner may seek contributions to costs from the local council requesting the installation. In no circumstances should mobile VAS be deployed for longer than the three month limit applying to temporary installations.

3 TRAFFIC CALMING/SPEED REDUCTION MEASURES

Derbyshire County Council and Derby City, as local Highway Authorities, are committed to the reduction of casualties on their highway networks. There are a number of traffic calming measures available to help reduce traffic speeds, and discourage inappropriate through traffic, in order to achieve casualty reduction on our roads.

We receive many requests for traffic calming measures which far outweigh the limited funding available for such schemes. Our funds must therefore be targeted at areas with a history of speed-related collisions resulting in **personal injury**; prioritised to those locations with the greatest number of collisions, with pattern and severity also taken into account. Sites of concern are identified either from data analysis (speed surveys and collision history) or from members of the public, in person or via their parish/town council/County Council Member. Measures can only be introduced at locations where there is an identifiable problem (e.g. trend in collisions) and will be chosen based on the likelihood of an improvement to the road safety record being achieved.

Note – refer to Table 1 in section 4 for consideration criteria

The responsibility for the enforcement of speed limits lies solely with the Police and instances of speeding can be reported to your local Police officers by dialling their 101 non-emergency number. In future the development of an area on the partnership website with appropriate links will facilitate the reporting of all speed related matters.

Below is a description of some of the speed-reduction measures we can consider, given the right circumstances. Physical calming measures - such as road humps or speed cushions (vertical deflection), build-outs and chicanes (horizontal deflection) – are costly and generally not well supported by the public and so we will tend to consider less intrusive measures wherever possible.

3.1 Road Humps

Perhaps the most recognisable form of traffic calming, **road humps** (commonly referred to as ‘sleeping policemen’), can be used to reduce traffic speeds and discourage inappropriate through-traffic on residential roads in order to lessen the risk of speed-related collisions occurring.

A road hump is rarely introduced in isolation and a scheme would normally include several humps, set at regular intervals, in order to reduce speeds consistently over the given route.

A variation on road humps are **speed cushions**. Unlike road humps, speed cushions form small plateaux across the width of the carriageway with gaps in between. Arguably not as effective as road humps, speed cushions do, however, allow easier passage for wider vehicles (such as those used by the emergency services) as they can straddle either side of the plateau; a useful alternative to road humps on busy bus routes and those heavily trafficked by heavy goods vehicles.

Speed Tables take the form of single, raised ‘table-top’ plateaux across the width of the carriageway. In addition to achieving reductions in speed, tables also provide a safe crossing place for pedestrians, across the top of the plateau, where traffic speeds will be at their lowest.

Measures of vertical deflection, as described above, can only be introduced on roads with a speed limit of 30mph or less, and where street lighting is present. We are also

governed by the Highways (Road Humps) Regulations 1999 which state that humps are to:

- be between 25mm and 100mm high;
- have a minimum length of 900mm;
- be either curved or flat topped, and
- be spaced at between 20m and 150m.

There will need to be very clear justification on grounds of road safety for any of these measures to be introduced as they are not well supported by the general public due to their detrimental effects. These measures will invariably create a level of noise/vibration pollution for local residents. The need for associated signage and street lighting can also be considered detrimental to the aesthetic of residential areas. Given the lack of support, less intrusive measures may be more appropriate in most situations where traffic calming is required.

3.2 Build-outs, Chicanes and Priority Narrowing

The benefit of horizontal deflection over vertical deflection is that vehicles do not have to travel over a physical feature and therefore problems of noise/vibration pollution are removed.

Such measures can often take the form of **chicanes** which uses features to either narrow the carriageway – allowing for two way traffic flow at slower speeds – or gives priority to drivers travelling in a certain direction, creating a break in traffic flow and reducing speeds.

Chicanes can be formed by creating **footway build-outs**; widening of the footway into the carriageway to provide improved visibility for pedestrians wishing to cross the road. This is of particular advantage on residential roads with high levels of parked cars. Build-outs introduced in isolation would not necessarily be used as a speed-reducing technique but the ‘narrowing’ of the carriageway will encourage some drivers to reduce speeds. A number of build-outs, introduced at strategic locations, will create a chicane effect and help to control traffic speeds along the route in question. Build-outs can be difficult to achieve where there are many private driveways restricting their positioning.

Priority narrowing is usually created through footway build-outs, extending into the carriageway to such a degree as to limit it to one-way traffic flow. The effect of this is that vehicles travelling in one direction have to give way to oncoming traffic, creating a break in traffic flow and subsequently reducing speeds. This measure does rely on oncoming traffic to be effective. A steady flow of traffic in either direction is needed and, if the balance is not right, can result in drivers speeding up to get through the gap first.

Footway build-outs and priority narrowing are often viewed as too intrusive by residents due to the associated kerbing required for the build-outs and signing/illumination of the priority system. An additional consequence of all forms of horizontal deflection is that it

invariably removes lengths of on-street parking, which is unfavourable in areas where such provision is in high demand.

Less intrusive measures will be considered wherever possible.

As with vertical measures, horizontal measures can only be introduced on roads with a speed limit of 30mph or less, and where street lighting is present.

3.3 Road Markings

Before using any of the above measures, we will normally consider whether road markings could be used at sites which suffer from a poor road safety record. The use of road markings can be a cost-effective measure in resolving certain speed-related injury problems.

An example of road markings we may consider are **rumble strips**. These would normally take the form of slightly raised strips, set across the entire width of the carriageway, and a different colour to the road surface. The strips cause vibration when driven over to alert drivers to reduce their speed and are typically used to draw attention to a change in speed limit – e.g. at the entrance to villages where there have been collision problems. Due to the noise generated by rumble strips, we are not recommended to introduce them within 200 metres of residential properties.

Another technique we may adopt is **visually narrowing road markings**, usually taking the form of white hatching placed down the centre of the carriageway. This creates a visual effect of narrow traffic lanes, reducing speeds and keeping opposing vehicle flows away from each other. They also encourage lower speeds when overtaking cyclists or parked vehicles. **'SLOW'** road markings can also be considered at problem locations.

4 TABLE 1: IDENTIFIED TREATMENTS AND THEIR CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION OF IMPLEMENTATION

Treatment Type	Treatment	Criteria	Considerations
Engineering	20mph zones.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only available for existing 30mph speed limit areas. • Not available for arterial/strategic routes. • 6 personal injury collisions over 1km (pro rata) in the latest 3 years. • Recorded mean speed and 85th percentile should be approximately 20mph. 	Traffic Regulation Order legal process required
Engineering	Speed Limit Change.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current speed limit assessed and not appropriate. • Procedure to rank and prioritise requests for speed limits is applied. • 	Traffic Regulation Order legal process which is subject to the public and statutory bodies opinion.
Engineering	Permanent Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 personal injury collisions over 1km in the latest 3 years, where either a trend can be identified or speed has been a factor in some of the collisions. • Site or Route Specific Road Markings and/or Traffic Signs methods have been evaluated and not worked • 85th percentile recorded speed has exceeded the threshold specified in Table 2. • Other traffic calming measures inappropriate due to strategic nature, hierarchy and importance of the route and to avoid the use of less appropriate routes. 	Speed or specific collision trend required. Road user can become familiar.
Engineering	Temporary VAS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 personal injury collisions over 1km in the latest 3 years, where either a trend can be identified or speed 	Road user less likely to become familiar and effectiveness is retained. VAS should remain in place for no longer than 3 months and not

Treatment Type	Treatment	Criteria	Considerations
		<p>has been a factor in some of the collisions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site or Route Specific Road Markings, Traffic Signs and other engineering methods have been evaluated and not worked. • 85th percentile recorded speed has exceeded the threshold specified in Table 2. • Other traffic calming measures inappropriate due to strategic nature, hierarchy and importance of the route and to avoid the use of less appropriate routes. 	<p>redeployed at the same site within 6 months (subject to resourcing and funding).</p>
Engineering	Horizontal Traffic Calming Measures (build-outs, chicanes and priority narrowing).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 personal injury collisions over 1km (pro-rata) in the latest 3 years in an area or. • Identified rat-running route. • Current speed limit is 30mph or less. • Street lighting must be present. 	<p>Limited noise and vibration issues.</p> <p>Difficult to implement where there are private driveways. Often viewed as intrusive by residents.</p> <p>Additional traffic signing and illumination is required which has an environmental impact.</p> <p>Amount of on-street parking provided will be reduced.</p>
Engineering	Vertical Traffic Calming Measures (road humps/speed cushions/speed tables/plateaux).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7 personal injury collisions over 1km (pro-rata) in the latest 3 years in an area or. • Identified rat-running route with more desirable alternative route available. • Current speed limit is 30mph or less. • Street lighting must be present. • Cannot be provided on the strategic road network where there is a high proportion of heavy goods vehicle traffic. 	<p>Size/height, etc, is prescribed by Highways (Road Humps) Regulations 1999.</p> <p>Can provide additional noise and vibration issues for residents.</p> <p>Additional traffic signing required which has an environmental impact.</p>
Engineering	Site Specific Road Markings (rumble strips).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 personal injury collisions over 1 km in the latest 3 years 	<p>Noise impact upon nearby properties.</p>

Treatment Type	Treatment	Criteria	Considerations
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cannot be located within 200m of a residential property. 	
Engineering	Site or Route Specific Road Markings (white hatching/narrow lanes/SLOW markings) and or Traffic Signs. Reductions in signs and markings where beneficial to safety.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 personal injury collisions over 1 km in the latest 3 years. 	Environmental considerations, where signs and markings have a little impact upon road safety. Asset reduction and consideration to energy costs.

5 TABLE 2: MEAN AND 85TH PERCENTILE SPEED THRESHOLDS

Speed Limit	Threshold (mean speeds)	Threshold (85th percentile speeds)
20mph	20mph	24mph
30mph	30mph	35mph
40mph	40mph	46mph
50mph	50mph	57mph
60mph	60mph	68mph