

Open Report on behalf of Andy Gutherson, Executive Director - Place

Report to:	Planning and Regulation Committee
Date:	11 April 2022
Subject:	Somerby, Londonthorpe & Harrowby A52 & B6403 High Dyke - Proposed 40mph speed limit

Summary:

This report considers a request for the introduction of a new 40mph speed limit at the above locations, the extent of which is shown at Appendix B. Investigations have indicated that this site may be considered a 'Borderline Case', as defined within the Council's Speed Limit Policy.

Recommendation(s):

That the Committee approves the reduction in speed limit at the above location so that the necessary consultation process to bring this into effect may be pursued.

Background

Following concerns regarding collision statistics along this stretch of the A52 and at its junction with the B6403, the Road Safety Partnership requested investigations into a potential reduction in speed limit. Despite the presence of vehicle activated signage warning drivers on their approach to the junction, six reported injury accidents have been recorded here over the last five years, four of which occurred at the junction. Currently the national speed limit is in force. As there is insufficient development along this length to justify the introduction of a speed limit on that basis, it has been assessed under the criteria for a rural limit where the number of reported injury accidents and traffic flow are taken into consideration to provide an accident rate. The accident rate has been calculated at 58 and is therefore sufficient to justify a new limit. The level of limit to be imposed is determined by the mean speed of traffic and its correlation to the level of limit shown in Table 4 of the policy:

Table 4

Mean Speed	Limit
< 33 mph	30 mph
33 – 43 mph	40 mph
44 – 53 mph	50 mph
> 53 mph	60 mph

A speed survey carried out at the location shown at Appendix B has determined a mean speed of traffic of 45mph, which lies within 3mph of the level required to justify a 40mph speed limit.

In accordance with the County Council's Speed Limit Policy a Borderline Case may be identified and is defined at 4.2 as follows:

4.2 At locations where the mean speed data falls within +/- 3mph of Table 3 (Mean Speeds), then this is classed as a Borderline Case.

This proposal can therefore be considered as a Borderline Case and the Committee may approve the initiation of the speed limit order process to reduce the current 60mph speed limit to 40mph. A plan indicating the extent of the 40mph limit proposed is shown at Appendix B.

Conclusion

The Planning and Regulation Committee may approve a departure from the criteria set out in the speed limit policy where a borderline case has been identified, and therefore may approve a reduction to a 40mph limit at this location. It is anticipated that road safety along this section of the A52 and at its junction with the B6043 will be improved should this new speed limit be introduced.

Consultation

a) Risks and Impact Analysis

N/A

Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Site location
Appendix B	Proposed 40mph speed limit

Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Speed limit policy	https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/directory-record/61713/speed-limit-policy

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