



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

Report to:	Planning and Regulation Committee
Date:	07 November 2022
Subject:	East Heckington A17 – Proposed 40mph speed limit

Summary:

This report considers a request for the existing 50mph speed limit on the A17, East Heckington, to be reduced to 40mph. 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 proposed so that the necessary consultation process to bring it into effect may be pursued.

Background

Following a request for a review of the current 50mph speed limit through East Heckington, received from the former local Member for this area, an assessment has been carried out.

The County Council's Speed Limit Policy provides a means by which requests for speed limits can be assessed consistently throughout the county. The criteria by which the reduction of an existing speed limit can be justified is determined by the mean speed of vehicles travelling along it. This being the case, speed survey equipment has been installed at the three sites identified at Appendix B with the following results:

Site 1 – 46mph; Site 2 – 42mph; Site 3- 46mph

In accordance with the criteria set out in the speed limit policy a borderline case may be identified and is defined within the policy 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.

The average mean traffic speed along the length surveyed lies within 3mph of the level required to justify a 40mph speed limit, as specified in Table 3 from the policy:

Table 3

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

A reduction to a 40mph limit at this location may therefore be considered as a Borderline Case and the Committee may approve the initiation of the speed limit order process whereby the existing 50mph speed limit can be reduced to 40mph. as shown at Appendix B.

For information, 15 reported injury accidents have occurred over the last five years on this stretch of the A17 within the proposed length of speed limit reduction.

Conclusion

Under the normal criteria set out in the Council's speed limit policy this location would not be considered eligible for a reduction in speed limit. As a borderline case however the Planning and Regulation Committee may approve a departure from the criteria where appropriate.

Consultation

No formal consultation is required at this stage. The local Member is in support of the proposal.

Risks and Impact Analysis

None carried out

Appendices

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

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
Correspondence; speed survey results	Available on request

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