
SPEED LIMIT REVIEW 2016

Report by Chief Officer, Roads

TWEEDDALE AREA FORUM

23 November 2016

1 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 **This report proposes to introduce a 40mph speed limit in the vicinity of Caerlee Corner.**
- 1.2 The A72 at Caerlee Corner was assessed in the 2015 Speed Limit Review for a 30mph speed limit extension and did not meet the criteria.
- 1.3 Local Members and the local Community Council requested that the site be re-assessed for a 40mph buffer zone supported by the continuing accident record and the high degree of local concern.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **I recommend that the Tweeddale Area Forum approves the amendment to The Scottish Borders Council Various Roads (40mph Speed Limit) Order 2004 to include the section of A72 shown in Appendix A and described in Appendix B.**

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 In accordance with Government guidance, speed limits should seek to reinforce people's assessment of what is a safe speed to travel. Scottish Borders Council has a statutory duty to set local speed limits in situations where local needs and considerations deem it necessary for drivers to adopt a speed which is different from the national speed limit.
- 3.2 A Scottish Borders-wide Speed Limit Review was carried out in 2015, to consider the representations which had been made (generally seeking lower speeds) or on sites which officers had identified as warranting investigation.
- 3.3 The A72 at Caerlee Corner was assessed in the 2015 Speed Limit Review for a 30mph speed limit extension and it did not meet the criteria.
- 3.4 Local Members and the local Community Council requested that the site be reassessed for a 40mph buffer zone supported by the continuing accident record and the high degree of local concern. The extent of the proposed 40MPH limit is shown in Appendix A and described in Appendix B.
- 3.5 As with all TROs, the Council has to undertake a two stage consultation process. Firstly there is a statutory consultation with bodies that have a direct interest such as emergency services, freight and public transport representatives and community councils. Following that process, the proposal requires to be advertised locally (local press and on-street notices) to allow others the opportunity to comment or object.
- 3.6 Statutory Consultation on the proposals was carried out from 19 September 2016 to 17 October 2016. No comments or objections were received during this period.
- 3.7 The proposals were advertised to the public from 27 October 2016 to 25 November 2016. No comments or objections were received during this period.

4 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Financial

The financial implications associated with the recommendations relates to the advertising costs and the provision of new signs. Approximate costs are as follows:-;

Advertising	£1,500
Signs	£1,000

The cost would be borne by the Aids to Movement budget.

4.2 Risk and Mitigations

- (a) The risk of not proceeding with the recommendations is that drivers progress along the section of road at speeds inappropriate to the conditions increasing risk of injury should an accident occur.
- (b) The risk of proceeding with the introduction of the speed limit at this site is that an errant vehicle may strike a sign post holding the signs necessary to indicate the restriction. This risk will be mitigated by design of appropriate sign pole.

4.3 Equalities

An Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out on this proposal and it is anticipated that there are no adverse equality implications.

4.4 Acting Sustainably

There are no significant impacts on the economy, community or environment arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.5 Carbon Management

There are no significant effects on carbon emissions arising from the proposals contained in this report.

4.6 Rural Proofing

It is anticipated there will be no adverse impact on the rural area from the proposals contained in this report.

4.7 Changes to Scheme of Administration or Scheme of Delegation

There are no changes to be made to either the Scheme of Administration or the Scheme of Delegation as a result of the proposals contained in this report.

5 CONSULTATION

5.1 The Chief Financial Officer, the Monitoring Officer, Chief Legal Officer, Chief Officer Audit and Risk, Chief Officer Human Resources and the Clerk to the Council have been consulted and any comments received have been incorporated into the report.

Approved by

David Girdler
Chief Officer, Roads

Signature

Author(s)

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Background Papers: None

Previous Minute Reference: N/A

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Various Roads (40mph) Order 2004 Amendment 2016

Add as follows:-

A72 Peebles Road, Innerleithen

That length of Route A72 from a point 376metres or thereby west of its junction with the western kerblineline of B709 Traquair Road, westwards then northwards for a distance of 471 metres or thereby