Norfolk County Council

Record of Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Responsible Cabinet Member: Councillor Martin Wilby (Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure)				
Background and Purpose: Implement measures, including a School 20 mph FR Road and introduce a 40 mph buffer sp the B1146 for the safety of students.	Part Time Speed Limit on Quebec			
Decision:				
To implement the speed management measures as proposed in THE NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (DEREHAM AND HOE AND WORTHING, VARIOUS ROADS) (20MPH AND 40MPH SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2019.				
Is it a key decision?	No			
Is it subject to call in? If Yes – Deadline for Call in	Yes Date: 12 November 2019			
Impact of the Decision: Traffic speeds				
improving the safety of vulnerable road users.				
Evidence and reason for the decision	n: As set out in the attached report.			
Alternative options considered and report.	ejected: As set out in the attached			
Financial, Resource or other implica attached report.	tions considered: As set out in the			
Record of any conflict of interest:				
None				
Background Documents:				
 Appendix A – Traffic Regulation 	Order and Plan			
Date of Decision:	01.11.2019			
Publication date of decision:	5 November 2019			
Signed by Cabinet member:	<u> </u>			

I confirm that I have made the decision set out above, for the reasons also set out

M. J. Willy

Signed:

Print name: Cllr Martin Wilby

Date: 1 November 2019.

Accompanying Documents:

 Report - THE NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (DEREHAM AND HOE AND WORTHING, VARIOUS ROADS)

Individual Cabinet Member Decision

Decision making report title:	THE NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (DEREHAM AND HOE AND WORTHING, VARIOUS ROADS))20MPH AND 40MPH SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2019
Date of Report:	23 October 2019
Responsible Cabinet Member:	Cllr Martin Wilby (Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Infrastructure)
Responsible Director:	Tom McCabe – Executive director, Community & Environmental Services
Is this a key decision?	No

Introduction from Cabinet Member

A pedestrian crossing assessment was carried out in February 2019 at the request of Local Member Will Richmond due to parents concerns for the safety of students attending Northgate High School. The assessment recommended the introduction of speed management measures on Quebec Road in Dereham to lower traffic speeds. These measures have been promoted through advertised orders and are supported by Cllr Bill Borrett. Reduced speeds on Quebec Road will improve safety for vulnerable road users.

Executive Summary

- Request received from Cllr Will Richmond to improve safety for students attending Northgate School.
- Norfolk County council promoting the introduction of speed management on Quebec Road to improve safety for vulnerable road users. Measures are to introduce a part time 20mph speed limit at the school and a 40mph buffer zone extending northwards along B1146.
- 1 objection received challenging the 40mph buffer zone due to potential noncompliance of drivers.
- NCC safety officer is satisfied that this section of B1146 supports a 40mph speed limit in line with criteria stated in Norfolk's Speed Management Strategy and the extents of the 40mph zone are supported by Norfolk Constabulary.
- No alternative options available.

Recommendations

1. To implement the proposals as advertised.

1. Background and Purpose

- 1.1. Norfolk County Council promoted the implementation of speed management measures, including a School 20-mph Part Time Speed Limit on Quebec Road and introduce a 40-mph buffer speed limit extending northwards along the B1146.
- 1.2. This proposal was on behalf of Local Member Will Richmond due to parents concerned for the safety of 160+ students taking short cut to school and crossing into rear of school field. Two road accidents (1 serious, 1 slight) in 6 years (Sep 2012 Aug 2018) occurred within 50m of the crossing point.
- 1.3. The proposals received support from the Police, Breckland District Council and Local Member Cllr Will Richmond and were advertised to the public between 16/08/19 and 10/09/19.

2. Proposals

- 2.1. The following proposals were suggested:
 - 40mph buffer speed limit extending northwards along the B1146.
 - Enhanced conspicuity of the eastern 30mph entry sign through minor re-siting or use of a cranked pole;
 - Introduction of a School 20mph Part Time Speed Limit.
 - Side out encroached footways in the vicinity of the crossing point.
 - Cut back branches from around street lighting to improve night time conspicuity of the crossing point.
 - two yellow backed chevron signs at Gingerbread Corner.
- 2.2. Please refer to Appendix A for advertised order and plan

3. Impact of the Proposal

3.1. The proposal advertised between 16/08/19 and 10/09/19 received one letter of objection. Objection was due to the extent of 40 mph buffer speed limit. Please see comments in section 4 below with Officer comments.

4. Evidence and Reasons for Decision

4.1. Comment received:

My objection is to the second part of Schedule 2, the imposition of a 40mph speed limit on the B1146 Holt Road from its junction with Gressenhall Road northwards for 708 metres. This section of road is entirely rural and, except for Brick Kiln Farm, has no frontage access. Forward visibility is generally good, so there can be no justification for lowering the speed limit below the national limit of 60mph. While I do not have access to any speed survey data, I expect that most drivers travel along this section in the 50-60mph range. A 40mph limit could be expected, therefore, to lead to substantial non-compliance without significant police enforcement. It could also create new dangers, as those drivers observing the limit could cause frustration in others following them, leading to increased overtaking.

It must be remembered that this section of the B1146 is the main route northwards from Dereham to Holt and Fakenham, so its primary function is to carry interurban traffic. Its ability to do this should not be compromised by unnecessary restrictions.

As a retired highway, traffic and road safety engineer, I know that speed limits must be set at levels seen as reasonable by the majority of drivers, otherwise they fall into disrepute and can cause more danger, not less. I urge the council, therefore, to reject the second part of Schedule 2 and terminate the proposed 40mph speed limit at the junction with Gressenhall Road.

4.2. Officer response:

The proposed 40mph speed limit is intended to reduce the speed of traffic on approach to the town of Dereham, in particular the sub-standard 90 degree bend at 'Gingerbread Cottage' which has been the location of several damage only road incidents. This section of B1146 also has a long length of footway, scattered development and includes a pedestrian access to Northgate High School. We are therefore satisfied that this section of B1146 supports a 40mph speed limit in line with criteria stated in Norfolk's Speed Management Strategy.

North of Gingerbread Cottage B1146 is more rural, although development is present 350m to the north at Brick Kiln's Farm where personal injury accidents have been recorded by Norfolk Constabulary. Whilst the environment here is more suited to 50mph limit we would face a difficult choice about where to terminate this and having only a short length of 50mph prior to the 40mph section to the south would be confusing for drivers. it was therefore decided to continue the 40mph speed limit to just north of Brick Kilns Farm; an approach supported by Norfolk Constabulary.

4.3. Following the officer response, the member of public refused to withdraw the objection and sent the following reply:

Thank you for your email and explanation, however I am not convinced and will not withdraw my objection, which I trust will be reported to the committee in due course.

5. Alternative Options

5.1. Not to implement the proposal as advertised and retain the current arrangement.

6. Financial Implications

6.1. None

7. Resource Implications

7.1. Staff:

None

7.2. Property:

None

7.3. **IT**:

None

8. Other Implications

8.1. Legal Implications

None

8.2. Human Rights implications

None

8.3. Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) (this <u>must</u> be included)

Norfolk County Council has a duty to pay due regard to equality when exercising its public functions. In making this TRO, we have considered the potential impact on local people, particularly disabled and older people and parents and carers of children, and others who may have particular needs when using the highways.

Public consultation on the TRO has taken place, to enable people to highlight any issues it is important for NCC to be aware of before a decision is made.

8.4. **Health and Safety implications** (where appropriate)

None

8.5. **Sustainability implications** (where appropriate)

None

8.6. Any other implications

N/A

- 9. Risk Implications/Assessment
- 9.1. N/A
- 10. Select Committee comments
- 10.1. N/A
- 11. Recommendations
- 11.1. 1. To Implement the proposals as advertised.
- 12. Background Papers
- 12.1. Appendix A Advertised Order and Plan

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper, please get in touch with:

Officer name: Alex Lo Tel No.: 01603 819857

Email address: alex.lo@norfolk.gov.uk



If you need this report in large print, audio, braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 or 0344 800 8011 (textphone) and we will do our best to help.

THE NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (DEREHAM AND HOE AND WORTHING, VARIOUS ROADS) (20 M.P.H. AND 40 M.P.H. SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2019

The Norfolk County Council proposes to make an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act, 1984, the effect of which will be to prohibit any vehicle from exceeding – 1) 20 miles per hour along the lengths of road specified in Schedule 1 below; and 2) 40 miles per hour in Schedule 2 below.

A copy of the Order and plan may be inspected at Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Norwich, and at the offices of Breckland District Council, Elizabeth House, Walpole Loke, Dereham during normal office hours.

Any objections and representations relating to the Order must be made in writing and must specify the grounds on which they are made. All correspondence for these proposals must be received at the office of nplaw, Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH, marked for the attention of Mrs Simmons by 10th September 2019. They may also be emailed to trafficorders@norfolk.gov.uk.

The officer dealing with public enquiries concerning the proposal is Alex Lo, telephone 01603 223977.

SCHEDULE 1 In the Town of Dereham

Proposed 20mph Speed Limit

B1146	-	From a point 28 metres north from its junction with the
Quebec Road		U32117/10 Chase Court northwards for a distance of 254
		metres.

SCHEDULE 2 In the Town of Dereham and Parish of Hoe and Worthing

Proposed 40mph Speed Limit

B1146	-	From a point 85 metres north from its junction with 30189/10
Quebec Road		De Narde Road north-westwards for a distance of 530 metres.
B1146 Holt		From its junction with C225/2 Gressenhall Road in the Town of
Road		Dereham northwards for a distance of 708 metres into the
		Parish of Hoe and Worthing.

DATED this 16th day of August 2019

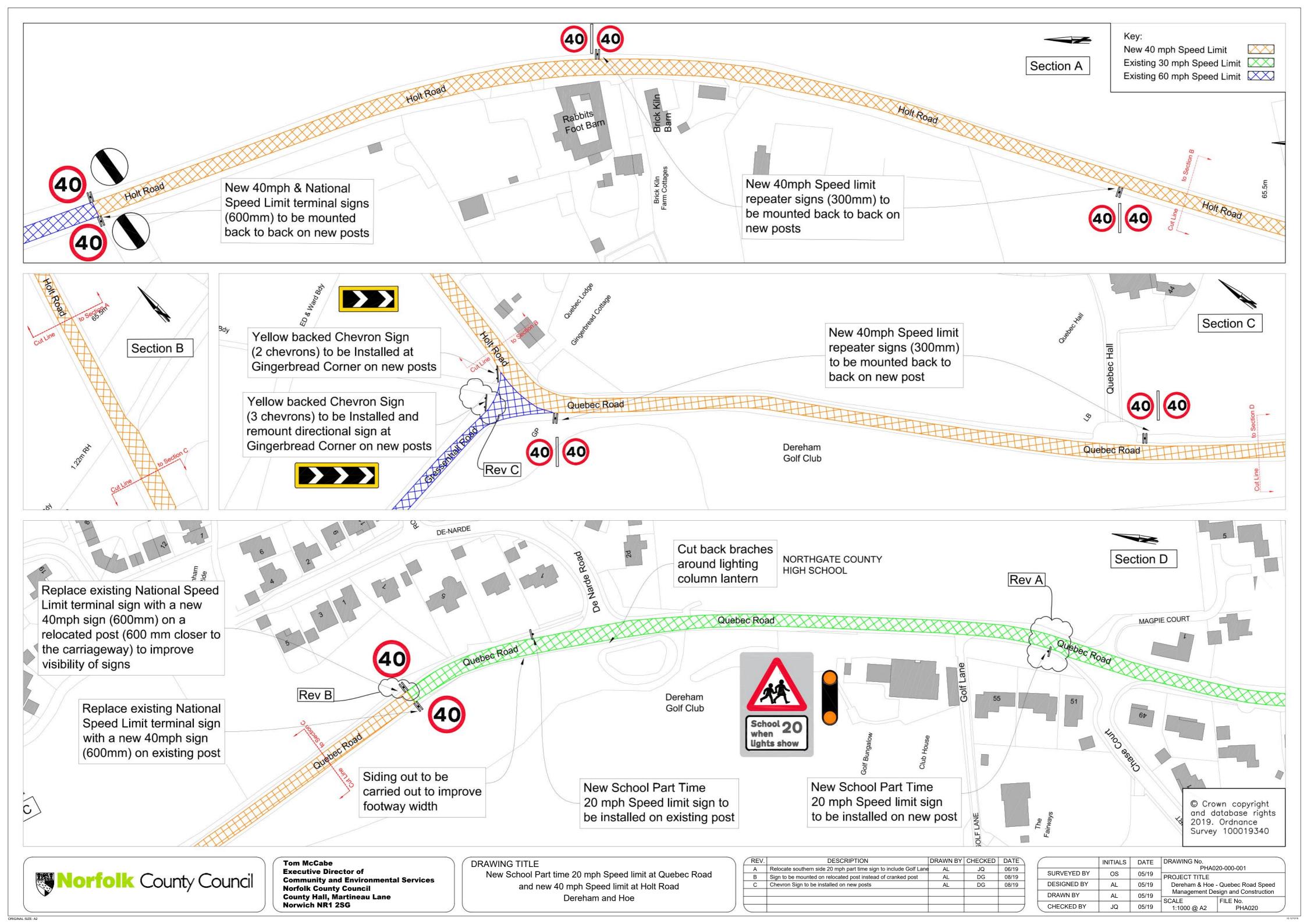
Helen Edwards Chief Legal Officer

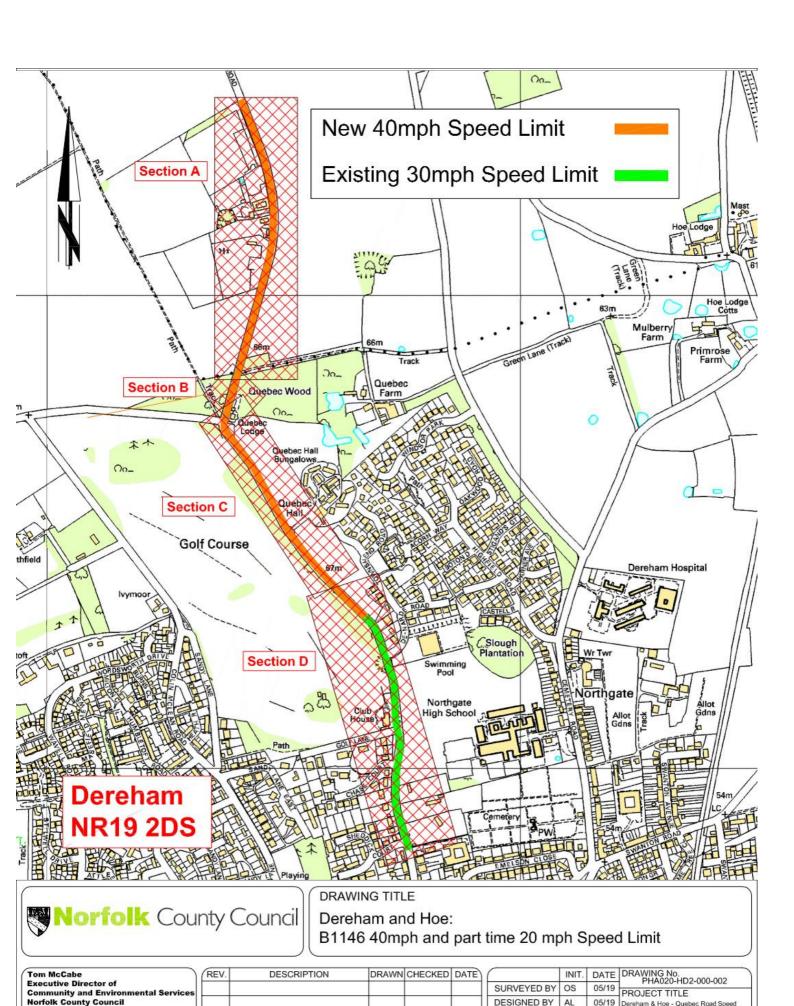
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County Hall Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2DH liplu bow ares

CHIEF LEGAL OFFICER

Note: Information you send to the Council will be used for any purpose connected with the making or confirming of these Orders and will be held as long as reasonably necessary for those purposes. It may also be released to others in response to freedom of information requests. HKS/61516(Dereham&Hoe&WorthingPHA020-20&40mphNotice1)19





DRAWN BY

CHECKED BY

County Hall Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2SG

RG 12/10

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