

Agenda Item No. 4(b)

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**MEETING OF CABINET MEMBER – HIGHWAYS, TRANSPORT AND
INFRASTRUCTURE**

16 June 2015

Report of the Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment

**OBJECTIONS TO A 30MPH SPEED LIMIT – A6005 DERBY ROAD, LONG
EATON**

(1) **Purpose of Report** To seek the Cabinet Member's approval to implement a speed reduction scheme following objections to a proposal to change the existing 40mph speed limit on the A6005 Derby Road, Long Eaton to 30mph.

(2) **Information and Analysis**

Background

As part of proposed cycle improvements, planned for the A6005 Derby Road and Nottingham Road, Long Eaton, to address the high number of collisions involving pedal cycles, the Authority proposes to extend the existing 30mph speed limit. The new length of 30mph speed limit would encompass Trent College and Wilsthorpe Community School, and is considered a much more appropriate speed limit for this section of Derby Road.

Objections

The proposals, as shown in drawing no HMT/RS/477/15, have followed the statutory consultation and public consultation procedures, and two objections were lodged by the Police and a member of the public.

The basis of the objections relate to the proposed location of the start of the 30mph speed limit. The Police consider the 30mph speed limit will be too far out and the existing road layout at this location will not properly signal the need to slow down or encourage a reduction in speed, bearing in mind the carriageway width and the positioning of adjacent properties. The Police consider that near to the junction of Briar Gate is a more suitable location, as this is where the carriageway narrows and, from the Police point of view, becomes more urbanised.

The basis of the objection from the member of the public relates to their wish for the speed limit to be further out, as they consider that the proposed location is too near to the school entrance and drivers would not have enough time to reduce their speed. They are also concerned about the signs being obscured by vegetation at this proposed point and that the footway at this location is not wide enough to accommodate a post without obstructing cyclists and pedestrians. They consider that near to the Wilsthorpe roundabout would be a more suitable location as the area is more open and the footways are wider, and drivers would adjust their speed to 30mph after exiting the roundabout.

Site Details

The A6005 is one of the main roads between Long Eaton and its surrounding villages to the cities of Derby and Nottingham. This section of road encompasses two schools, a private nursery and residential properties. Derby Road has street lights with footways on both sides, central hatching, cycle lanes, bus stops and pedestrian crossing facilities. There are many roads that lead to and from nearby housing estates that join with Derby Road.

There have been six collisions along this section of Derby Road in the last three years. Speed was a contributory factor in three of these collisions.

Officer Comment

Terminal signs are ideally located at a point where a driver can see a reason for the reduction in speed limit. This is based on the surrounding environment becoming more urban which a driver can perceive by the presence of schools, residential properties, private accesses and junctions. All these factors support the need for the speed limit and the need to slow down. Although the concerns of the Police are appreciated, officers still consider that the proposed location is suitably urbanised to warrant a lower speed limit, and is also entirely consistent with the Department for Transport (DfT) Circular 01/2013 Setting Local Speed Limits that 30mph should be the norm for built up areas.

Conversely, extending the 30mph speed limit out any further than its proposed location is too far a distance from the more built up area and is thus unlikely to be respected. In respect to the Objector's concerns that a speed limit terminal sign post may obstruct the footway and be obscured by vegetation at the proposed location, the footway is wide at that point, approximately 3.3m, and careful consideration of the sign's exact location will be given prior to its erection.

Local Member Comment

Councillor Roland Hosker fully supports the proposals to extend the speed limit.

(3) **Financial Considerations** This work forms part of the approved Local Transport Plan 2013 - 2014 scheme for Traffic Regulation Order works and will cost approximately £10,000.

(4) **Legal Considerations** Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 states that it shall be the duty of every Local Authority exercising the functions in that Act (so far as practicable having regard to the matters listed below) to secure the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians) and the provision of suitable and adequate parking facilities on and off the highway.

The matters referred to above are:

- 1) the desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises;
- 2) the effect on the amenities of any locality affected and (without prejudice to the generality of this paragraph) the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles, so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run; 2ii) the national air quality strategy prepared under Section 80 of the Environment Act 1995;
- 3) the importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles; and
- 4) any other matters appearing to the Local Authority to be relevant.

Section 2 of the 1984 Act states what a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) may provide for and this includes prohibition of waiting. Notice of proposals must be given in accordance with Regulation 7 Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and at least a minimum of 21 clear days for the receipt of written objections must be allowed. Objections can then be considered by the Local Authority.

Regulation 14 of the 1996 Regulations enable an order making authority to modify an Order in consequence of any objections or otherwise, before it is made. Where substantial changes are to be made, the order making authority must notify those likely to be affected by the modifications and giving them an opportunity to make a representations which the authority shall consider. In this matter, it is considered that the modifications constitute a reduction and are therefore not a substantial change.

Having determined all objections the Council may determine to introduce the new restrictions. The Order will need to be formally made, advertised and the

requisite signs erected. An order shall not be made until after the last date for objections. No Order can be made until after the last date for objections. No Order can be made more than two years after the date of publication of the notice of proposals. No part of a TRO can come into force before that date when it is intended to publish a notice of making.

Other Considerations

In preparing this report the relevance of the following factors has been considered: prevention of crime and disorder, equality and diversity, human resources, environment, 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.

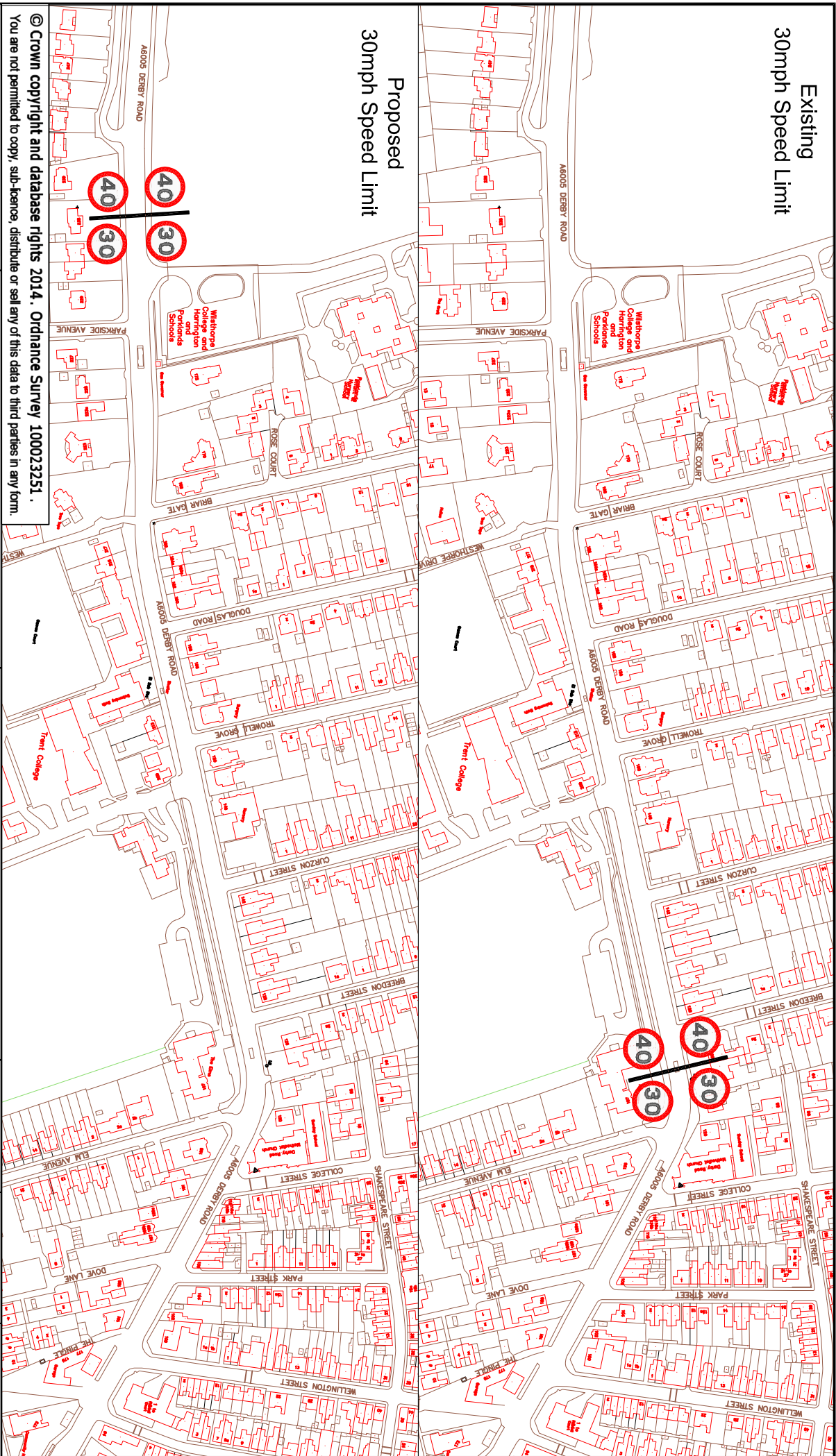
(7) **Background Papers** Held on file within the Economy, Transport and Environment Department. Officer contact details – Rachel Straw, extension 38525

(8) **OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATIONS** That the Cabinet Member approves:

8.1 The implementation of the 30mph Speed Limit Order on the A6005 Derby Road, Long Eaton, as advertised.

8.2 That the Local Member and objectors be informed accordingly.

Mike Ashworth
Strategic Director – Economy, Transport and Environment



Existing
30mph Speed Limit

Proposed
30mph Speed Limit

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MIKE ASHWORTH
Strategic Director
Economy, Transport and Environment

PROJECT TITLE			DRAWN			CHECKED			APPROVED			
A6005 Derby Road, Long Eaton			R Straw			D Bryan			D Bryan			
			Date			Date			Date			
			29/10/2014			29/10/2014			29/10/2014			
DRAWING TITLE			Project / Confirm Reference No.			Confirm Ref 882304			SCALE			
Proposed 30mph Speed Limit Extension			Drawing Number			HMT/RS/477/14			SCALE			
			ORIGINAL DRAWING SIZE 297 x 210 (A1)									
AMENDMENT DETAILS			BY	CHMD	APVD	DATE	NO.					