

Portfolio Holder Decision

The Warwickshire County Council (Various Roads, Southam) (20mph Speed Limit) Order 2023

Portfolio Holder	Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning
Date of decision	11 December 2023
	Signed

1. Decision taken

That the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning approves that the below named proposed Speed Limit Order be made as advertised:

- The Warwickshire County Council (Various Roads, Southam) (20mph Speed Limit) Order 2023.

2. Reasons for decisions

- 2.1 Pursuant to Part 2(4) of the Warwickshire County Council Constitution, the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning in consultation with the Local Member(s) has delegated authority to determine road traffic management and accident prevention schemes and road traffic regulations in cases where objections have been received (and not withdrawn).
- 2.2 The statutory public consultation for a 20mph speed limit to be introduced to various roads in Southam, was advertised on the 20th July 2023 for 3 weeks. It was also advertised on street in the form of public notices, in the Leamington Spa and Warwick Observer and on the Council's website. Statutory consultees have also been consulted. The closing date was extended by an extra week to 18th August 2023, so that residents in the area had sufficient time to consider the proposal.
- 2.3 A copy of a plan PTRO23 006 01 detailing proposals to introduce the 20mph Speed Limit within Southam can be found as **Appendix A**. One objection to the proposal were received during the consultation; the following table details the objection received, and the Council's response.

Emails/letters	
Objections received	1

Objection 1 – Resident of Banbury Road (cul-de-sac)

15 August 2023

20 mph Speed Limit Order - Southam

As regards the above, I object as follows:

- . Drivers who drive responsibly will continue to do so.
- . Drivers who drive irresponsibly will continue with their bad habits regardless of any lower speed limit.
- . I do not see how a 20 mph limit can be enforced in practice.
- . Further signage will Just clutter the centre of Southam.

I consider that this will achieve very little for Southam although it will, no doubt, help in a small way help to justify local public sector employment.

Engineers response

The personal views put forward by the Objector may have merit, but unfortunately they are not sufficient grounds to change or vary the Proposal as advertised. This Engineer tried to communicate with the Resident which was made slightly more difficult as there was no telephone number or email address contained within his letter. A County Council letter was hand delivered to his property inviting him to contact the Engineer. No such contact was made by the Resident.

- 2.4 The published reasons for the introduction of a 20mph Speed Limit for the various roads in Southam remain valid. It is therefore recommended that the proposals in their current form be implemented as advertised.

3. Background information

- 3.1. Statutory Criteria for Decision Making on Speed Limit Orders **Appendix B**
- 3.2. A copy of the published Notice can be found as **Appendix C**
- 3.3. A copy of the supporting email from Southam Town Council as **Appendix D**

- 3.4. A copy of the single Objection letter received can be found as **Appendix E** and above at Section 2 of this report.
- 3.5. A copy of the Statement of Reasons can be found as **Appendix F**
- 3.6. As it has not been possible to resolve this Objection and could not be withdrawn, a Decision is required of the Portfolio Holder to proceed with the scheme. The published reasons for the introduction of a 20mph Speed Limit for the various roads in Southam remain valid. See **Appendix F – Statement of Reasons**. It is therefore recommended that the proposals in their current form be implemented as advertised.

4. Financial implications

- 4.1 The Southam 20mph Speed Limit was agreed between the Safety Engineering Traffic Section and the HS2 Project Board. Funding for this proposal will be met wholly from the HS2 Project.

5. Environmental implications

- 5.1 The 20 mph speed limit is introduced as a safety measure. It is not anticipated that the change will result in an adverse effect on air quality or noise levels and the works are minor having little environmental impact during delivery.
- 5.2 It is hoped that this new speed limit will enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors in the area and improve safety for all road users and residents, especially the elderly and young child pedestrians.

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Assistant Director	Scott Tomkins. Director for Communities
Strategic Director	Mark Ryder, Executive Director for Communities
Portfolio Holder	Councillor Jan Matecki, Portfolio Holder for Transport and Planning

Urgent matter?	No
Confidential or exempt?	No
Is the decision contrary to the budget and policy framework?	No

List of background papers

Email objections along with plans that can be produced if required.

Appendix A - Speed Limit Plan (PTRO23 006 01)

Appendix B – Statutory Criteria for Decision Making on Speed Limit Orders

Appendix C – Copy of the Public Notice

Appendix D – Supporting email from Southam Town Council.

Appendix E - Resident Objection Letter

Appendix F - Statement of Reasons

Members and officers consulted and informed

Portfolio Holder – Councillor Jan Matecki

Corporate Board – Mark Ryder

Legal – Caroline Gutteridge

Finance – Andrew Felton

Equality – Delroy Madden

Procurement – John Hopper

Democratic Services –

Councillors – Cllr Crump

Local Member(s): Councillor Crump