HTM/11/10

Torridge Highways and Traffic Orders Committee 10 October 2011

Traffic Regulation Order: 40mph Speed Limit, Westleigh Junction

Report of the Head of Highways and Traffic Management

Please note that the following recommendation is subject to consideration and determination by the Committee before taking effect.

Recommendation: It is recommended that the Devon County Council (A39 Westleigh Junction) (40mph Speed Limit) Order be advertised.

1. Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek approval to advertise the proposed introduction of a mandatory 40mph speed limit between Westleigh Junction and the Heywood Road roundabout and a mandatory 30mph speed limit across the whole of the Heywood Road roundabout.

As part of the traffic order process, other existing speed restrictions in Northam are being consolidated into this order for ease of reference.

2. Introduction

In 2007 this site was treated as part of the Collision Severity Review process and an advisory 40mph max speed warning sign and a vehicle activated sign were introduced.

In order to resolve the long standing safety concerns at this location the Cabinet agreed (Minute 348 Wed May 11 2011) to the implementation of a traffic signal scheme as shown on plan EATS(N) 351/39/0

(httm?cmadoc=minutes_exc_20110511.html). These proposals will make this current advisory speed limit mandatory.

3. Proposal

The first part of the proposal is to introduce a mandatory 40mph speed limit between Westleigh Junction and the Heywood Road roundabout as part of the traffic signal scheme at Westleigh Junction, which was approved by the Cabinet. The second part of the proposal is to introduce a 30mph speed limit across the whole of the Heywood Road roundabout in line with the current Devon County Council Traffic Advice Note DTA34/05 Local Speed Limits. The proposal is shown on plan 4620-1-A shown in Appendix A.

4. Representations

The local member for Fremington Rural and Chair of North Devon HATOC has expressed his approval to advertise the proposal. Local member for Northam has requested that this decision be debated at HATOC.

5. Financial Considerations

The cost of this proposal is included in the traffic signal scheme estimate of £660k as approved at Cabinet on 11 May 2011.

6. Legal Considerations

There is a legal obligation to under take statutory consultation on any changes such as speed limits that require Traffic Regulation Order(s). Following advertising of proposals all objections received in the statutory consultation period will need to be considered along with officer recommendations and a decision made at the appropriate level on how to proceed.

7. Options

Refer decision to Cabinet for decision on progression to advertisement of proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

Proposed TRO is advertised with new 40MPH speed limit on the eastern side of Torridge Bridge only (Fremington Rural Ward).

8. Reason for Recommendations

To enable the formalisation of advisory 40mph speed limit, resolve the long standing safety concerns at this location and to complete the traffic light scheme considered appropriate and approved by Cabinet.

Lester Willmington Head of Highways and Traffic Management

Electoral Divisions: Fremington Rural and Northam

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

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Background Paper Date File Ref

1 Cabinet Committee Minutes 11 May 2011 384

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