

Casualty Severity Reduction Scheme – A379 Yealmpton to Modbury

Report of the Head of Highways and Traffic Management

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

Recommendation: It is recommended that:

- (a) the scheme for the A379 Yealmpton to Modbury is approved at a cost of £53,000;**
- (b) the Traffic Regulation Order is advertised and, if no objections are received, signed and sealed.**

1. Summary

A study of the A379 between Yealmpton and Modbury has been undertaken following analysis of collisions and casualties that have occurred in the period January 2006 to December 2008. Design has taken place over a 2 year period and the scheme has been used in the development of a new signing and lining methodology "Toolkit" prepared for the County Council by consultants Jacobs. The Toolkit is described in more detail below and copies will be available at the HATOC meeting.

The study has recommended several changes to signing and lining along the route in line with the Toolkit and the extent of the scheme is illustrated in Plans 1 and 2 appended to this report. Plan 1 shows the casualties which initially identified the scheme for remedial action and Plan 2 shows the most up to date three year casualty record available.

2. Background/Introduction

A recent study of the 99 worst performing roads within Devon in terms of vehicle collisions has identified the A379 between the Plymouth Boundary and Kingsbridge as being the 17th worst performing. The section of the A379 between Yealmpton and Modbury forms a significant portion of this route.

In the period 1 January 2006 to 21 December 2008 a total of 24 collisions were recorded on this part of the network. There were 34 casualties associated with those collisions. By implementing speed limit changes and additions to the current signing, lining along the route it is estimated that 8 collisions and 10 casualties could be saved.

Continued monitoring over the three year period 1 January 2008 to 21 December 2010 has indicated that 18 collisions have occurred resulting in 27 casualties.

3. Proposal

Toolkit

A part of the brief given to our Consultants related to the formulation of a standard methodology and Toolkit for use throughout the County on Casualty Severity Reduction route study schemes. Based on principles established by the Country Mile Project, the methodology is intended to provide consistency to the way in which hazards are identified

and signed throughout Devon. Information on the curvature of bends, road camber and road condition provided by SCANNER vehicles already used to collect road maintenance data is analysed along with collision data to give sections of road a score. The poorest performing sections of road are coded Red with a Yellow or Green code for better performing areas. Appropriate signing and lining treatments can then be allocated ensuring that the most hazardous sites are appropriately signed and that other better performing sections of road will not become cluttered with warning signs. The preparation of the Toolkit has accounted for some £12,000 of the overall design fee of this scheme.

Scheme Proposal

The scheme has examined collision records, highway geometry and condition factors along the A379 between Yealmpton and Modbury, a distance of approximately 4½ miles. The study involved a site survey of the entire length of road concerned. Recommendations include the removal of 51 sign assemblies and installation of signs and lines at 78 locations.

The scheme also includes the removal a short isolated section of 30mph speed limit at Yealmbridge, imposed by virtue of a system of street lighting, and the introduction of a longer more easily enforceable 40mph speed limit from Dunstone Cross to Yealmpton. This has necessitated a departure from Policy being considered and agreed.

Full details of the scheme can be seen on plans that will be tabled at the HATOC meeting.

4. Consultations

Consultations have been undertaken with the Local Member and the Parish Council of Yealmpton in respect of the proposed 40mph Speed limit and the removal of the 30mph limit at Yealmbridge.

5. Financial Considerations

The overall cost of the route study scheme is £40,000. Approximately 45% of the costs involved have been incurred in the production of the route study by Jacobs. The DfT annual report on Reported Road Casualties in Great Britain: 2010 states an average value of all severity collisions to be £68,320 and this provides an economic rate of return (ERR) of 455%. If the cost of producing the Toolkit (£12,000) is included within the scheme costs the ERR is 343%.

6. Sustainability Considerations

The scheme is proposed in order to save collisions and casualties occurring on the main road highway network in this locality. Savings to the community will be considerable in economic and social terms and contribute significantly to sustainability of resources.

7. Carbon Impact Considerations

Reduction in collisions will have a beneficial effect on carbon impact by reducing the resource needed to attend on such collisions and casualties.

8. Equality Considerations

There are no known equality issues.

9. Legal Considerations

The Highway Authority has a Statutory Duty imposed by Section 39 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 to investigate the causes of collisions and to take measures to both reduce and prevent collisions.

10. Risk Management Considerations

The risk to the County Council by not undertaking this scheme is that it will not meet its Statutory Duty under Section 30 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

11. Options/Alternatives

The option of leaving the status quo is not acceptable due to the Highway Authority's Statutory Duty.

12. Reason for Recommendation/Conclusion

The recommendations are made following a detailed study of the collision records and highway geometry and condition. Consultation with the local community through the Yealmpton Parish Council has informed the decision to seek a departure from Policy in order to propose the introduction of the 40mph Speed Limit.

Lester Willmington
Head of Highways and Traffic Management

Electoral Division: Yealmpton

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

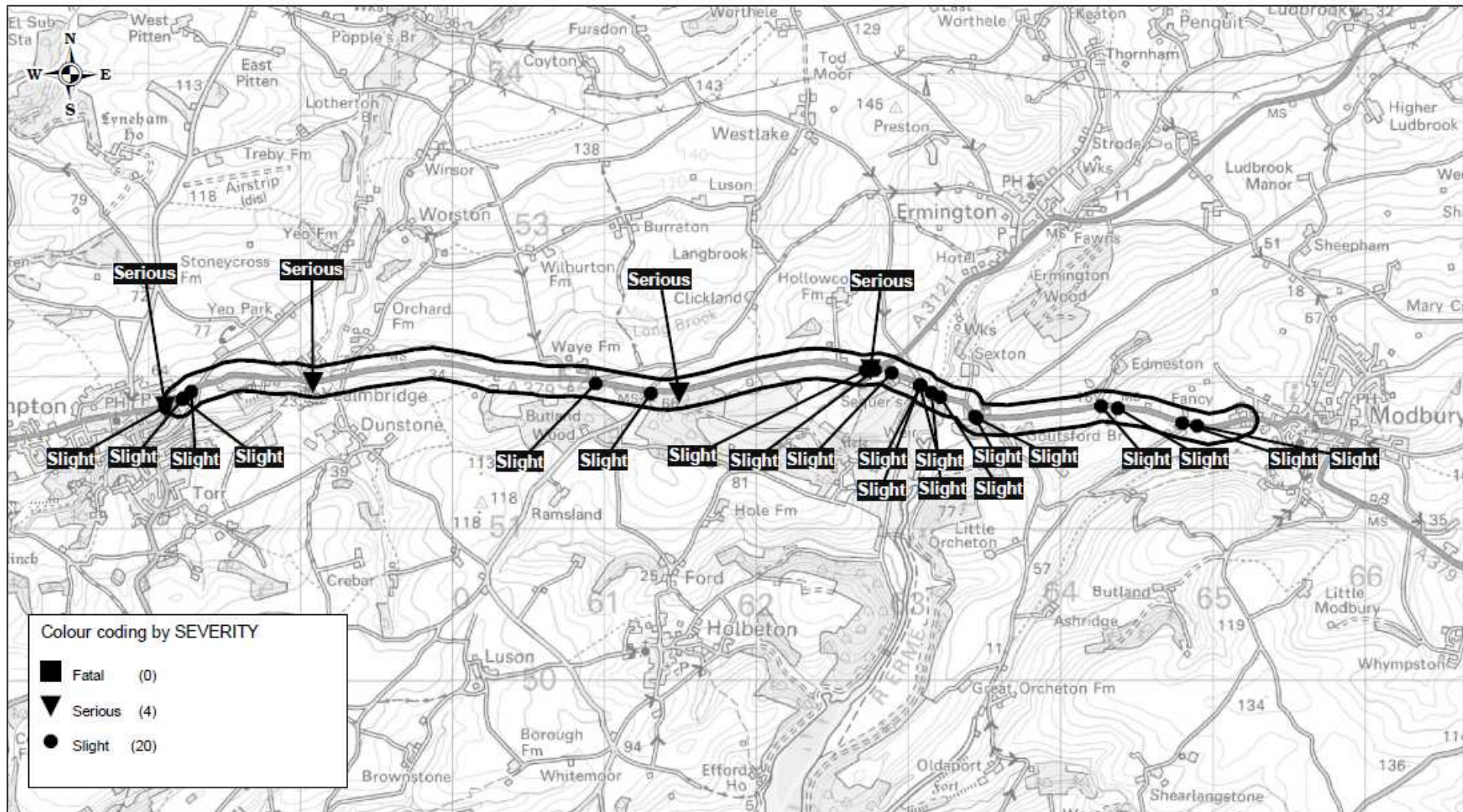
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Background Paper	Date	File Reference
1. Collision Cluster Review 2009	April – May 2009	
2. Route Studies Toolkit	June 2011	B2300006/C.06a/0002 revP1

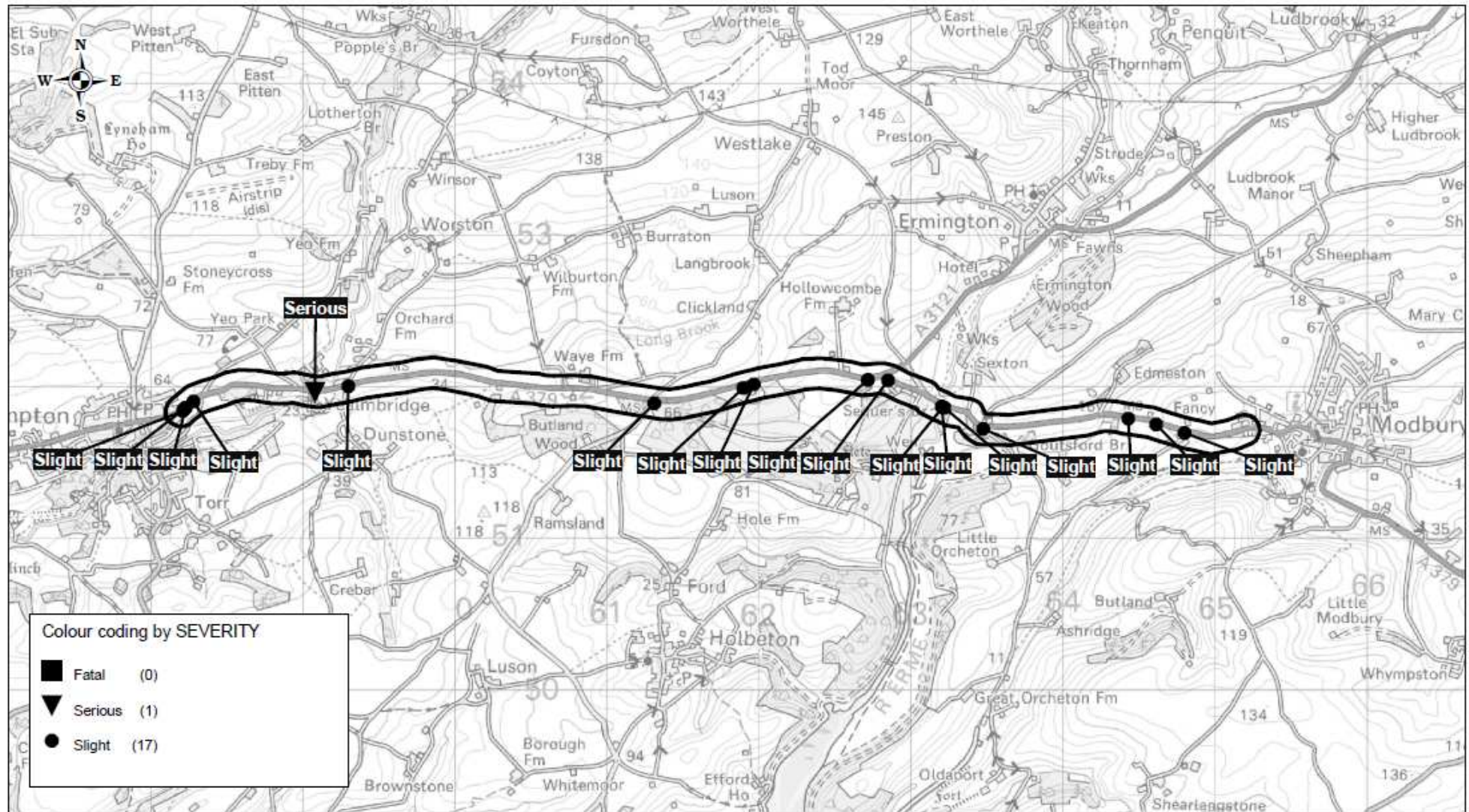
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sc/cr/casualty severity reduction A379 Yealmpton to Modbury
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Plan 1: Injury Collisions 2006-2008

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Colour coding by SEVERITY

- Fatal (0)
- ▼ Serious (1)
- Slight (17)

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Plan 2: Injury Collisions 2008-2010

SCALE	1 : 35000
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