

HIW/17/21

West Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee
16 March 2017

North Tawton – 30mph Speed Limit Extension

Report of the Chief Officer, Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

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 responses to the proposed Traffic Regulation Order are noted;**
- (b) the Traffic Regulation Order as advertised, be made, sealed and implemented.**

1. Background/Introduction

The purpose of this report is to consider the submissions received during the North Tawton 30mph Speed Limit Extension Traffic Regulation Order consultation.

2. Proposal

As part of a new residential development scheme at Batheway Fields at North Tawton, it is proposed to extend the 30mph speed limit along the Road from Moor View to de Bathe Cross (C472) towards de Bathe Cross, incorporating the new junction into the Batheway Fields development. The proposed extension to the speed limit is to tie in with the extent of the new street lighting installed as part of the development and takes into consideration the necessary visibility splay for the new junction. The proposal can be seen on drawing number ENV5510/1 (A) in Appendix I.

As the extension of the 30mph limit is on highway that is subject to the national speed limit, a restricted road traffic regulation order needs be created for that change in speed limit. This is line with legislation.

3. Options/Alternatives

The recommendation is to proceed with the sealing of the order as advertised as it is considered that a further extension to the originally proposed 30mph speed limit would not be in line with Devon County Councils current policy on speed limits.

The policy is to provide 30mph speed limits in communities. Between communities national speed limit will apply. Lower speed limits on sections of routes between communities will only be considered where there is a record of speed related collisions along that route.

Over the five year period from 2011 to 2015 there have been no reported collisions on the C472; no data has been released for 2016 as of yet however there are no safety grounds to extend the speed limit further than originally proposed. There would be concerns that extending the 30mph limit further would result in the limit not being observed.

Under these circumstances and in accordance with policy, it is not recommended to extend the 30mph speed limit other than originally proposed in drawing number ENV5510/1 (A).

The original proposed location of the 30mph limit also complies with the minimum requirements for forward visibility to allow motorists to adjust speed prior to the commencement of the speed limit.

4. Consultations & Representations

Following approval by the local County Councillor and the Chair of West Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee formal consultation on the proposed traffic regulation order began on 1 December until 22 December 2016. During the consultation period, two submissions were received.

The submissions requested that the 30mph speed limit be extended further out than originally proposed.

A summary of the submissions and the County Council's responses can be seen in Appendix II.

5. Financial Considerations

The funding for this traffic regulation order is being met by the developer.

6. Environmental Impact Considerations

The objective of the proposals is to reduce speed adjacent to the Batheway Fields development on the approach into North Tawton and therefore the environmental effects of the scheme are positive.

7. Equality Considerations

There are no equality issues relevant to the proposal.

8. Legal Considerations

The lawful implications and consequences of the proposal have been considered and taken into account in the preparation of this report.

When making a Traffic Regulation Order it is the County Council responsibility to ensure that all relevant legislation is complied with. This includes Section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 that states that it is the duty of a local authority, so far as practicable, secures the expeditious, convenient and safe movement of traffic and provision of parking facilities.

9. Risk Management Considerations

This proposal has been assessed and all necessary safeguards or action have been taken/included to safeguard the Council's position

10. Conclusions for Recommendations

The originally proposed Traffic Regulation Order to extend the 30mph speed limit incorporating the new access into the Batheway Fields development meets policy on local speed limits and will provide a limit that is appropriate and likely to be complied with.

David Whitton
Chief Officer, Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste

Electoral Division: Hatherleigh & Chagford

Local Government Act 1972: List of Background Papers

Contact for enquiries:

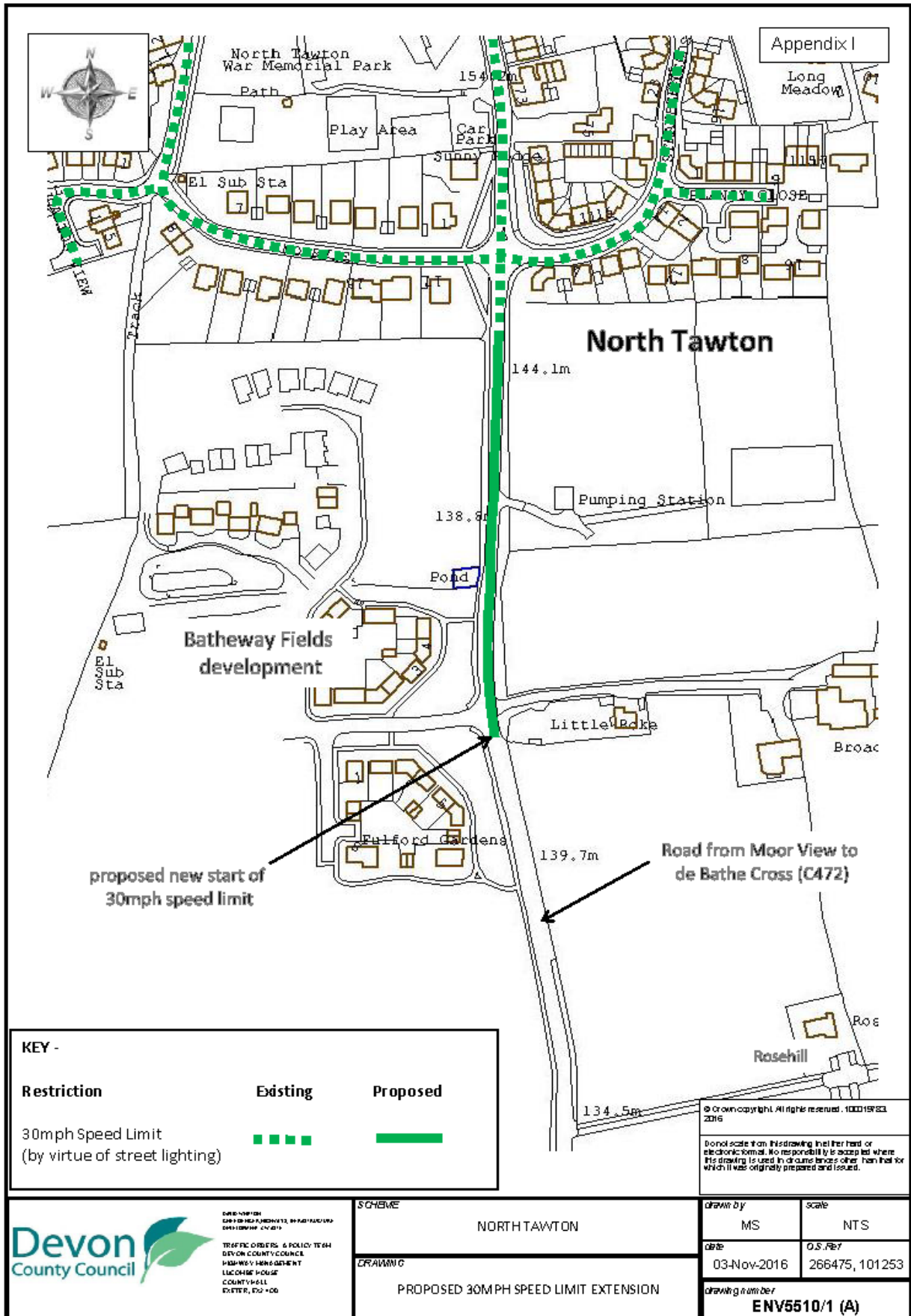
Room No: ABG Lucombe House, County Hall, Exeter

Tel No: 01392 383000

Background Paper	Date	File Ref.
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sc/cr/north tawton 30mph speed limit extension
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**Appendix I
To HIW/17/21**



**Appendix I
To HIW/17/21**

**5510 Devon County Council
(Road from Moor View to de Bathe Cross (C472), North Tawton)
(Restricted Road) Order**

Summary of Submissions

Comment	Devon County Council Response
First Respondent: North Tawton Town Council	
Town Council objects to the 30 mph proposal as advertised.	Comment noted.
Devon County Council should consider extending the 30mph southwards from the proposed area to the entrance to Rosehill. The reason for this request is that there is a blind brow of the hill just before the entrance to Batheway and it is felt that having the 30mph restriction at the entrance to Batheway will be very dangerous.	<p>Extending the 30mph speed limit clearly beyond the junction of the Batheway Fields development does not comply with the current Devon County Council policy criteria for speed limits; street lighting system and minimum density of frontages.</p> <p>The proposed location of the 30mph limit complies with the minimum requirements for forward visibility to allow motorists to adjust speed prior to the commencement of the speed limit.</p>
If it is not possible to extend the 30 mph restriction to the vicinity of Rosehill then the 30mph restriction should be extended to the area where there is a pedestrian entrance to Batheway, which is close to where it is proposed to site allotments.	As above
Councillors commented that other villages, such as Bow and Coplestone, have a 30 mph limit which is not within the street light area and is not directly at the entrance to development/houses.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>Extent of speed limit refers to previous Devon County Council policies on speed limits and not the current policy.</p>
Second Respondent: Resident of Court Green, North Tawton	
Protests strongly to the proposed siting of the 30mph limit on the outskirts of North Tawton	Comment noted.
Vehicles approaching the suggested 30mph limit are in a blind spot as the ground/road south of the pedestrian access to Batheway drops away. Therefore vehicles could approach at 60mph causing danger to vehicles ingressing and egressing the Batheway development.	<p>Extending the 30mph speed limit clearly beyond the junction of the Batheway Fields development does not comply with the current Devon County Council policy criteria for speed limits; street lighting system and minimum density of frontages.</p> <p>The proposed location of the 30mph limit complies with the minimum requirements for forward visibility to allow motorists to adjust speed prior to the commencement of the speed limit.</p>
The 30mph signs should be beyond the entrance to Rosehill and beyond Heath Park.	As above.
Bow Village has 40mph signage in both directions approaching the settlement leading into the 30mph limit. Suggests a similar arrangement for North Tawton – 40mph from de bathe Cross reducing to at Heath Park.	<p>Comment noted.</p> <p>Extent of speed limit refers to previous Devon County Council policies on speed limits and not the current policy.</p>