

Statement of Reasons

Gloucestershire County Council – 30mph and 40mph Speed Limits - A435 Evesham Road, Cheltenham

Proposals

1. To replace part of the existing National Speed Limit (60mph) with a 30mph speed limit by virtue of streetlighting; and
2. To replace the remainder of the existing National Speed Limit (60mph) with a 40mph speed limit.

Reasons

Gloucestershire County Council are proposing to reduce the speed limits along part of the A435 Evesham Road (between Southam Lane roundabout and Swindon Lane roundabout) as follows:

1. Extending the existing 30mph speed limit at the Swindon Lane roundabout by approximately 180m in a northerly direction by virtue of existing compliant streetlighting to replace part of the existing National Speed Limit (60mph).
2. Replacing the remainder of the existing National Speed Limit (60mph) with a 40mph speed limit from the new 30mph stretch mentioned in 1 above in a northerly direction to the existing 40mph speed limit approximately 200m south of the roundabout with Southam Lane.

There have been 3 slight and 1 serious collisions on this stretch in the past 3 years.

The speed limit is currently National Speed Limit (60mph) and recent surveys to ascertain whether a 40mph speed limit would be self-enforceable and complied with by drivers, show that the mean speeds are already 47mph. Even though this is slightly above the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guideline intervention level of 46mph, the surveys show that the National Speed Limit (60mph) is not appropriate for this stretch of the A435. Additional traffic engineering measures such as carriageway narrowing and signage will be agreed at design stage in order to ensure compliance with a lower speed limit.

Further monitoring of the speeds will be undertaken upon completion of the scheme if successful and further traffic calming measures considered if the speeds still fall outside of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) guideline intervention level of 46mph.

Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (RTA)

GCC are relying on their powers to introduce a 30mph speed limit by virtue of streetlighting and a 40mph speed limit by order under Sections 81, 82 and 84 of the RTA.

In addition, thorough consideration was given to the factors set out in Section 122 of the RTA in proposing this scheme.

Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016

All of the associated signing and lining will be in accordance with traffic signs regulations and general directions 2016.

Equality Act 2010

Thorough consideration was given to the Equalities duty of the County Council under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010.