

## **REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, PLACE**

### **THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (A6006 MELTON ROAD, EAST LEAKE / REMPSTONE / STANFORD ON SOAR) (40 M.P.H. SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2021 (8318)**

## **CONSIDERATION OF OBJECTIONS**

### **Purpose of the Report**

1. To grant delegated approval to the Corporate Director Place, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, to consider the objections received in respect of the above Speed Limit Order.

### **Information**

2. A Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) is a legal order, which allows the County Council to regulate the speed, movement and parking of vehicles. Nottinghamshire County Council as Local Highway Authority has a responsibility to consider all objections received before making a TRO permanent.
3. Under the current committee system officers have delegated authority to take day to day operational decisions and it is considered that many decisions on TRO's where objections are received fall within this definition. On 12th July 2012, Transport and Highways Committee approved an approach that permitted officers to deal with these matters for 3 objections or less with the following exceptions that are referred to the Committee for consideration:-
  - those which have received significant objections from consultees – more than 3 objections from separate properties that cannot be resolved by amendments to the scheme;
  - those which have received objections from the local County Councillor/s, formal decisions of District or Parish Council/s or another local authority;
  - those which have received objections from Public Transport Operators or Associations, Road Haulage Association, Freight Transport Association, Highways Agency, Traffic Commissioner or emergency service;
  - those which have received objections by petition;
  - those which have been the subject of a public inquiry.
4. The current process for officers to consider objections defined as operational decisions is by way of a report from Team Manager, Major Projects and Improvements (Via East Midlands) to the Head of Highways and Transport within the Place department, who then has delegation to make the final decision on the Traffic Regulation Order.
5. The A6006 is a rural classified 'A' road in the Borough of Rushcliffe in Nottinghamshire. In 2012, a section of the A6006 between its junction with the A60 to the west and Zouch to the

east was lowered to 50mph. The Defence and National Rehabilitation Centre (DNRC) is located off the A6006 Melton Road in the grounds of Stanford Hall; the 'Defence' element is complete and has been treating patients since 2018.

6. As part of a second phase of the development of the DNRC, a new access is being planned around 150m east of the existing Leake Lane junction. This second junction was originally included in the planning application previously granted approval. Following detailed design and further consideration the County Council is consulting on a modification to the existing Traffic Order to reduce the speed limit from 50 to 40 mph on the A6006 along the frontage of the DNRC at Stanford Hall. The aim of the of the proposed limit change is to reduce speeds along this section of road and give more time for drivers using the new National Rehabilitation Centre and surrounding junctions to react to turning vehicles.
7. The lower speed limit proposed should also offer a safer environment for non-motorised users, in particular pedestrians wishing to access the new facilities on foot, as it will potentially allow a pedestrian refuge to be installed on the A6006 close to the proposed vehicular access (national guidance does not recommend the use of pedestrian refuges on roads with speed limits greater than 40 mph).
8. In addition, the new 40 mph section will form part of a wider route treatment on the A6006 which will be enforced by average speed cameras. The design/ feasibility of this is currently being considered along with options for funding.
9. The County Council is currently in discussions with representatives of the DNRC with regard to the redesign of the site junction, as the reduced speed limit offers greater flexibility potential for an upgraded junction than originally proposed and considered through planning.
10. The statutory consultation was undertaken between 3<sup>rd</sup> February and 24<sup>th</sup> February 2021, the proposals are as detailed on plan H/JAB/3658/01.

### **Objections Received**

11. At the time of production of the papers for the Committee meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2021, no formal objections, had been received, although historically these are sent in towards the end of the objection period. Responses to date are:
12. Rempstone Parish Council  
Rempstone Parish Council has not objected to the proposals but has asked that consideration is given to extend the proposed 40mph upto the A60.
13. Response  
The extent of the proposed speed limit change covers the existing and new access to the DNRC and is along the street lit section of the A6006. A principal aim in determining appropriate speed limits should be to provide a consistent message between speed limit and what the road looks like, and for changes in speed limit to be reflective of changes in the road layout and characteristics. It is considered that by implementing the change in speed limit at the street lit section it provides a key change in the characteristic of the road. Further changes could be made to the limit in the future - this would be subject to scheme approval and statutory consultation.
14. Stanford Parish Council  
Stanford Parish Council supports the proposals.

15. If no further objections are received, then the speed limit changes can be implemented within 2-years of the notice of proposals. If objections are received but can be considered within the parameters set-out in the 2012 approvals referred to in paras 3 and 4 of this report, then this will be the adopted route. Subject to approval, the recommendation in this report will only be required if one or more of the exceptions identified in para 3 applies.

### **Other Options Considered**

16. Speed limit - the other options considered related to the appropriate speed for this section of road and extents.

17. Approvals – the other option would be to leave consideration of any objections until a future committee meeting this could potentially delay the second phase of the DNRC development.

### **Comments from Local Members**

18. County Councillors Andrew Brown and Reg Adair were briefed about the proposals prior to consultation and are supportive.

### **Reasons for Recommendation**

19. The recommendation allows decisions related to this Traffic Order to be progressed in a timely manner.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

20. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

21. Nottinghamshire Police made no objections to the proposal. No additional crime or disorder implications are envisaged.

### **Financial Implications**

22. The scheme can be funded through the 2020/21 Integrated Transport Measures capital programme with an expected cost of £4,000.

### **Human Rights Implications**

23. The implementation of the proposals within this report might be considered to have a minimal impact on human rights (such as the right to respect for private and family life and the right to peaceful enjoyment of property, for example). However, the Authority is entitled to affect these rights where it is in accordance with the law and is both necessary and proportionate to do so, in the interests of public safety, to prevent disorder and crime, to protect health, and

to protect the rights and freedoms of others. The proposals within this report are considered to be within the scope of such legitimate aims.

## **Public Sector Equality Duty implications**

24. As part of the process of making decisions and changing policy, the Council has a duty 'to advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not' by thinking about the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share protected characteristics (as defined by equalities legislation) and those who don't;
- Foster good relations between people who share protected characteristics and those who don't.

25. Disability is a protected characteristic and the Council therefore has a duty to make reasonable adjustments to proposals to ensure that disabled people are not treated unfairly.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is **recommended** that:

- 1) Committee grant delegated approval to the Corporate Director Place to consider the objections received, if required, (in consultation with the Committee Chair) in respect of The Nottinghamshire County Council (A6006 Melton Road, East Leake / Rempstone / Stanford on Soar) (40 M.P.H. Speed Limit) Order 2021 (8318).

**Adrian Smith**  
**Corporate Director Place**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:** Sonya Hurt, Team Manager (Major Projects and Improvements) / Naomi Cook (Major Projects and Improvements Manager) Tel: 0115 9773290

### **Constitutional Comment (SG 18/02/2021)**

26. This decision falls within the Terms of Reference of the Communities & Place Committee to whom responsibility for the exercise of the Authority's functions relating to the Highways

### **Financial Comments (GB 18/02/2021)**

27. The estimated cost to implement the works set out in this report totals £4,000. It is proposed that this will be funded from within the 2020/21 Integrated Transport Measures capital budget which totals £8.1m and is already approved as part of the Communities and Place capital programme.

## **Background Papers**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

- All relevant documents for the proposed scheme are contained within the scheme file which can be found in the Major Projects and Improvements Team at Trent Bridge House, West Bridgford.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected:**

Leake and Ruddington ED  
Leake and Ruddington ED

Councillor Andrew Brown  
Councillor Reg Adair