

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE - 13 NOVEMBER 2018

**THE ANGUS COUNCIL
(GOWANBANK, LUNANHEAD, MUIRHEAD AND KIRRIEMUIR ROAD FORFAR)
(VARIATION OF SPEED LIMITS) ORDER 2018**

REPORT BY THE HEAD OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report relates to the making of a Traffic Order in respect of changes to speed limits at Gowanbank, Lunanhead, Muirhead and Kirriemuir Road Forfar.

1. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee notes the objection received during the publication period and approve the making of the Order as drafted.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE ANGUS LOCAL OUTCOMES IMPROVEMENT PLAN/CORPORATE PLAN

This proposal contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Angus Local Outcomes Improvement Plan and Locality Plans:

PLACE

- Safe, secure, vibrant and sustainable communities.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Reference is made to Article 10 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee held on 17 April 2018 at which it was agreed to the implementation of the amendment to existing speed limits on B954 at Muirhead, B9134 at Lunanhead and B9113 at Gowanbank.

3.2 Reference is made to Article 8 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee held on 29 May 2018 at which it was agreed to the promotion and making of a Speed Limits Order to effect changes to the current speed limit on a section of Kirriemuir Road, Forfar.

4. CONSULTATION AND PUBLICATION

4.1 The Notice of Proposals was published in the *Courier* on 10 August 2018. In addition Public Notices were erected on the affected roads.

4.2 In response to the publication of the proposals, 1 objection to the proposals at Kirriemuir Road, Forfar was received. The basis of the objection is that the objector considers that the proposed extension of the 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road Forfar (A926) does not go far enough. The objector suggests the 40mmph speed limit should be extended all the way to Padanaram village as she feels that speeding traffic on the section between A90 and Padanaram affects the public safety of road users and pedestrians.

4.3 The Head of Infrastructure appreciates the objector's concerns; however a similar request raised by a local elected member for an extension of the 40mph speed limit on the A926 from Forfar to Padanaram was considered at a recent meeting of the Angus Area Traffic Co-ordination Group Forum.

- 4.4 The Group agreed that an extension of the 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road, Forfar to the 30mph speed limit at Padanaram fails to meet the criteria set out in Angus Council's Speed Limit Strategy for a 40mph speed limit and its introduction would therefore not be appropriate. The Group at a previous meeting had however agreed to the extension of the 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road to cover the new Guild Homes development at Turfbeg.
- 4.5 The Group considered that there is a need to have a consistent approach to speed limits across the county so that drivers understand the need for appropriately reduced speed limits in areas where there is a clear risk and that if a reduced speed limit was introduced on the A926 between Forfar and Padanaram there is a risk that it would have little effect on current driver behaviour and would lead to a greater onus on Police Scotland for speed enforcement.
- 4.6 Notwithstanding the above, in terms of the current draft Speed Limits Order which has been published the procedure regulations pertaining to such Orders does not permit a draft Order to be modified such that it would extend the application of the Order or increase the stringency of any prohibition or restriction contained in the Order. As such the request to extend the 40mph speed limit would therefore not be permitted in respect of the current draft Order.
- 4.7 Copies of letters of objection and responses by the Head of Infrastructure (**Appendix 1**) are attached to this report. Plans of the various proposals (**Appendix 2**) are also attached to this report.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The costs of implementing the proposals at Kirriemuir Road Forfar will be met by the developer of the new housing site at Turfbeg. The estimated cost of implementing the other proposals is £3,000 which will be met from the 2018/2019 Roads Revenue Budget.
- 5.2 Additional maintenance costs will amount to £400 per annum and this will require to be provided for in future years Roads Maintenance Revenue Budgets.

6. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Strategic Director - Place, the Head of Finance and Legal and the Local Police commander of Tayside Division were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE:

The following background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information), were relied on to any material extent in preparing this Report:-

Communities Committee - 17 April 2018 - Report No 122/18
- 29 May 2018 - Report No 174/18

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List of Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Letters of Objection and Responses to Letters of Objection

Appendix 2 – Location Plans