

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 16 APRIL 2019

SPEED LIMITS AT FORFAR - KIRRIEMUIR ROAD (A926)

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE

ABSTRACT

This report relates to the potential alterations to the agreed speed limit on a section of Forfar – Kirriemuir Road (A926).

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

- (i) consider the various options for the speed limit; and
- (ii) if option 2 or option 3 is chosen, agrees to the promotion and making of the appropriate Speed Limits Order to effect the speed limit change, subject to there being are no objections.

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

2.1 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.
- An enhanced, protected and enjoyed natural and built environment.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 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.

3.2 Reference is made to Agenda item 6 (Report No.342/18) of the meeting of the Communities Committee held on 13 November 2018 at which was agreed the implementation of the alteration to the existing speed limit on that section of Kirriemuir Road, Forfar, which was approved on 29 May 2018. The Committee also agreed that a report be submitted to the January meeting of this Committee regarding the possible extension of the 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road, Forfar to the 30mph speed limit at Padanaram. The report was subsequently delayed to allow a site visit to be undertaken.

4. CURRENT POSITION

4.1 On 19 November 2018, the Speed Limits Order approved on 29 May 2018 was made extending the existing 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road in Forfar westwards for total distance of 1240 metres from the current 30mph speed limit encompassing the proposed housing development for approximately 240 houses by Guild Homes Ltd on an area of land at Turfbeg.

4.2 As mentioned in report 342/18 during the publication period for the above Order, an objection was raised on the basis that the proposed 40mph speed limit did not extend far enough and

should be continued westwards to Padanaram village particularly in relation to school children travelling along the route.

- 4.3 The introduction of an extended 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir Road adjacent to the Guild Homes development is considered justified on the basis of the additional new traffic which would be generated by the development as well as the additional vehicle turning movements into and from the development on Kirriemuir Road.
- 4.4 The development boundary for Forfar runs along the northern and western boundary of the Turfbeg site that has planning permission. Outside this is considered to be open countryside. Similarly, the development boundary for Padanaram is limited to around the current settlement.
- 4.5 A site visit by members of the Communities Committee was undertaken on 3 April 2019.

5. OPTIONS

5.1 The options to be considered are:

1. Status quo - retain 40mph speed limit as previously approved;
2. Extend the 40mph speed limit to the roundabout on the east side of A90; and
3. Extend the 40mph speed limit to Padanaram village.

Plans showing the extents of the options are shown in **Appendices 1-3**.

- 5.2 The Angus Council Speed Limit Strategy was produced in order to provide 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. It is considered that if a reduced speed limit was introduced on the A926 between Forfar and Padanaram then 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.
- 5.3 The criteria set out in Angus Council's Speed Limit Strategy for a 40mph speed limit would not be met by the further extension of the 40mph speed limit on Kirriemuir - Forfar Road.
- 5.4 Police Scotland has been consulted on this matter and they agree that it would not be appropriate to extend the 40mph speed limit in terms of options 2 and 3.
- 5.5 Due to the nature of the section of road in question, it is considered unlikely that drivers will adhere to a reduced speed restriction as they will not see the need for it where there is little or no frontage development or side roads, etc.
- 5.6 In light of the above Option 2 or 3 are not recommended.
- 5.7 In order to implement any changes to speed limits, the promotion and making of a speed Limits Order is necessary.
- 5.8 Plans showing the above options are appended to this Report.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising for the council as a result of the recommendation contained in this report. If Members were minded to pursue Options 2 or 3 there would be minor costs for signage which can be contained in the Traffic revenue budget.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Service Leader - Legal and Democratic, and the Local Police Commander of Tayside Division were consulted in the preparation of this report.

REPORT AUTHOR: Ian Cochrane, Director of Infrastructure

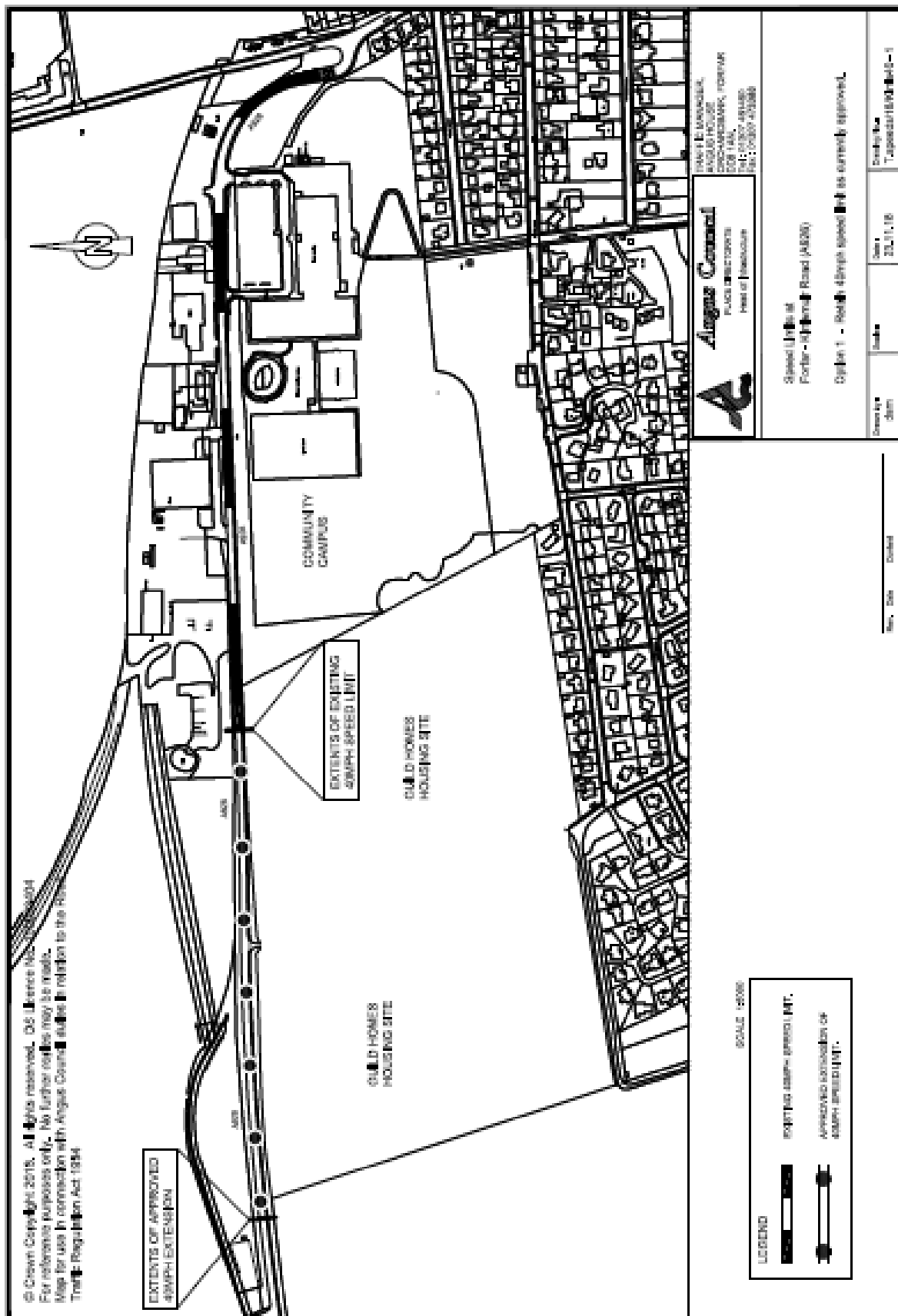
EMAIL DETAILS: Communities@angus.gov.uk

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

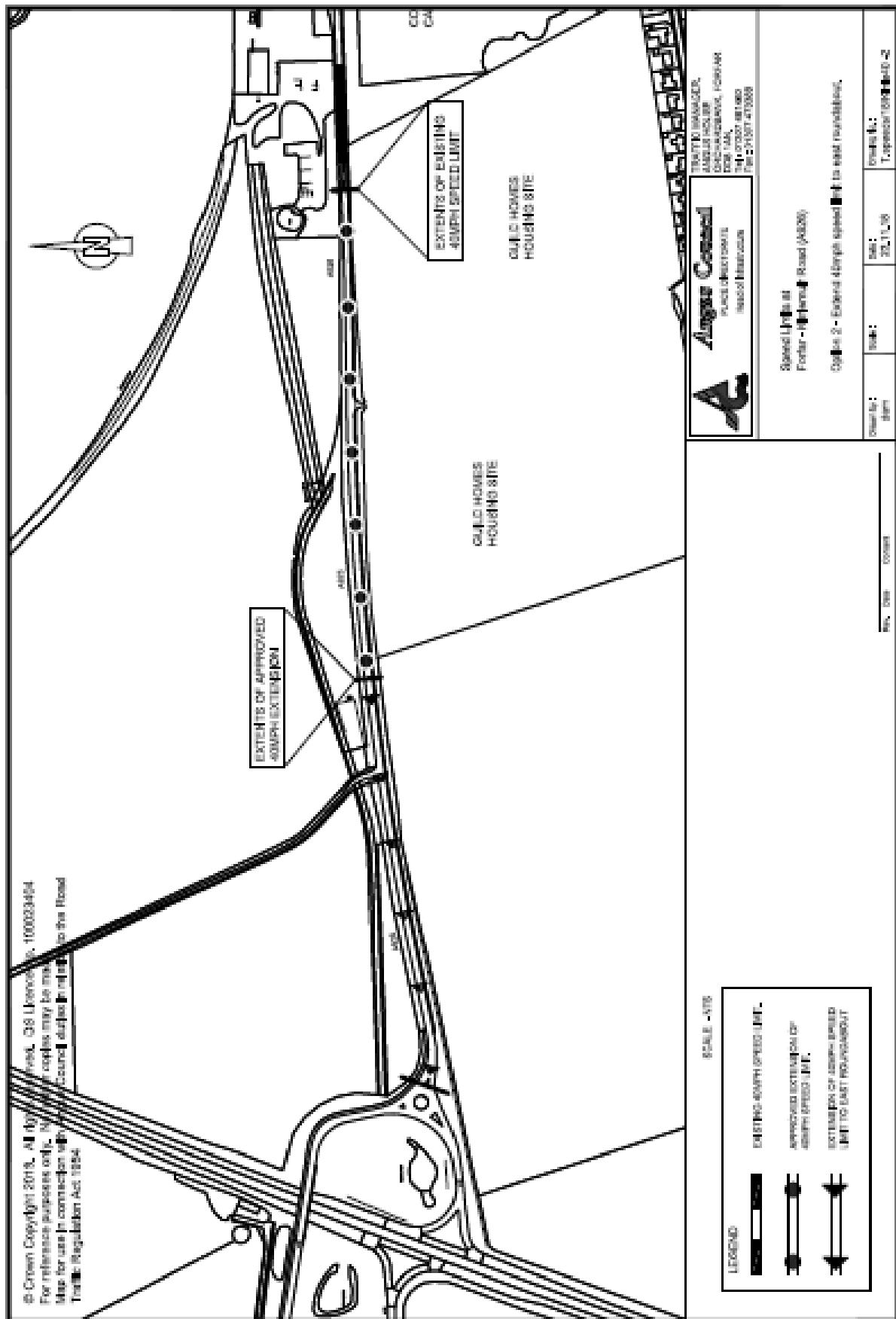
- Report No. 1397/06“Setting Local Speed Limits” – Infrastructure Services Committee - 23 November 2006
- Report No. 266/08 Speed Limit Review – A & B Class Local Roads – Infrastructure Services Committee - 4 March 2008
- Report No.342/18 The Angus Council (Gowanbank, Lunanhead, Muirhead and Kirriemuir Road, Forfar) (Variation of Speed Limits) Order 2018
- Article 8 of the minute of meeting of the Communities Committee, held on 29 May 2018

List of Appendices:

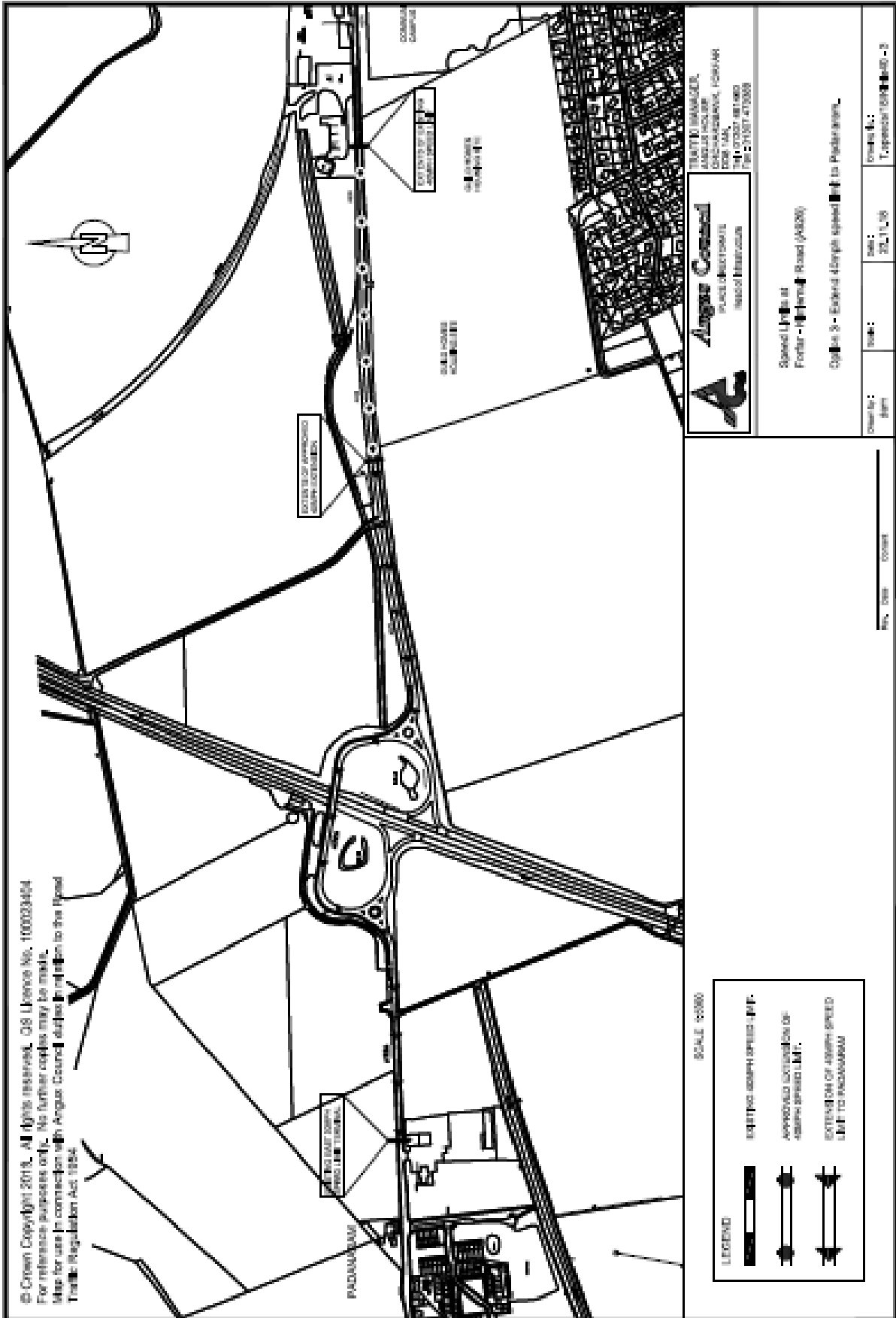
- Appendix 1: Forfar – Kirriemuir Road (A926); with the agreed 40mph for the current Guild Home development
- Appendix 2: Option 2
- Appendix 3: Option 3



Plan showing the Forfar – Kirriemuir Road (A926); with the agreed 40mph for the current Guild Home development



Plan showing the Forfar – Kirriemuir Road (A926); with the potential extended speed limit from the agreed 40mph speed limit for the current Guild Home development to the Kirriemuir/A90 roundabout



Plan showing the Forfar – Kirriemuir Road (A926); with the potential extended speed limit from the agreed 40mph speed limit for the current Guild Home development to the 30mph speed limit at Padanaram village