

ANGUS COUNCIL

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES COMMITTEE

24 NOVEMBER 2009

C51 WOODVILLE – REQUEST FOR REDUCED SPEED LIMIT & SPEED LIMIT REVIEW – C & U CLASS ROADS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

ABSTRACT

This report updates the Committee on a recent request for consideration of a reduced speed limit on the C51 at Woodville by Arbroath and the outcome of the subsequent assessment. The report also outlines the intention to progress a review of speed limits in Angus of the remaining C and U Class Roads.

1 RECOMMENDATION

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee:-

- i) notes the outcome of the assessment carried out following the request for a reduced speed limit on the C51 at Woodville;
- ii) agrees to promote the necessary Speed Limit Order to enable the implementation of a reduced 40 mph speed limit in Woodville;
- iii) direct the Head of Roads to undertake a speed limit review of C & U Class roads in Angus utilising the Angus Council Speed Limit Strategy 2008, previously established through Committee.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 In August 2006 the Scottish Government published new guidance on setting local speed limits (Circular 01/2006). Within this guidance was a requirement for all Local Authorities to review the speed limits on their A and B class road network by 2011. There was no express requirement to review "C" class and unclassified "U" roads. In Committee Report No 1397/06 (23 Nov 2006) the Director of Infrastructure Services undertook to complete this review by the end of 2007.

2.2 The review of speed limits on the "A" and "B" class roads was completed and the findings were detailed in Committee Report No 266/08 (4 March 2008). In addition to reporting the findings of the review, the Infrastructure Services Committee was requested to approve the adoption of an Angus Council Speed Limit Strategy 2008. The agreed strategy has been attached for reference purposes as Appendix 1 to this report. Included in this work was consideration of appropriate speed limits on villages located on those classes of roads.

2.3 Angus Council were one of the first Councils in Scotland to carry out the review of their A & B class road network. The necessary speed limit order required to implement the speed limit amendments was made on 26 January 2009 and the order came into force on 27 April 2009. The amended road signing and lining is now in place and well in advance of the Scottish Government deadline of 2011.

3 DETAILS

3.1 Earlier in 2009 the Roads service received requests on behalf of local residents for a reduced speed limit on the C51 at Woodville in view of the number and density of residential properties in the vicinity.

- 3.2 Angus Council's Speed Limit Strategy 2008 states that where appropriate, 30mph speed limits should be the norm in villages. The definition of a village is based on simple criteria adopted from Traffic Advisory Leaflet 1/04 – "Village Speed Limits". The criterion relates to frontage development and distance and applies where the following are met:
- 20 or more houses (on one or both sides of the road)
 - a minimum density of 3 houses per 100m; and
 - a minimum length of 600m.
- 3.3 In situations where the above criteria for a village is not strictly met, and there are just fewer than 20 houses, extra allowances will be made for buildings such as schools or churches. In order to avoid ambiguity of this definition, a minimum of 80% of the required housing (16 houses) plus significant other building(s) is necessary for a 30mph limit. Housing density in the 50 to 80% range will be considered for a 40 mph speed limit.
- 3.4 An assessment of the section of the C51 through Woodville was carried out using the Angus Council Speed Limit Strategy notwithstanding that this is on a C class road and whilst Woodville does not meet the criteria for a 30mph speed limit, the lesser criteria for number of houses and housing density can be applied and a 40mph speed limit is appropriate.
- 3.5 Although there is currently still no requirement to review the existing speed limits on C and U Class roads, the Director of Infrastructure Services intends to carry out a review similar to that of the A & B Class review, and following the same approach, utilising the Angus Speed Limit Strategy 2008. It is intended that the review will commence with the C class roads and as soon as practicable will be complete during 2010. The findings and recommendations will be reported to the Infrastructure Services Committee thereafter.

4 **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 The works required to implement the amended speed limit at the C51 Woodville are estimated to cost £4,000 and will be contained within the Roads Division Revenue budget.
- 4.2 The financial implications resulting from the proposed C & U Class review relate to staff time costs involved in undertaking the review and these will be met from existing resources.

5 **HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 There are no human rights implications arising from the proposals in this report.

6 **EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The issues contained in this Report fall within an approved category that has been confirmed as exempt from an equalities perspective.

7 **SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

- 7.1 This report contributes to the following local outcomes contained within the Single Outcome Agreement for Angus.
- Communities in Angus are safe, secure and vibrant
 - A good quality of life is enjoyed by all in Angus

8 **CONSULTATION**

- 8.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Law and Administration and the Chief Constable were consulted in the preparation of this report.

9 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 It is recommended that the existing speed limits on all C and U Class roads in Angus will be reviewed in accordance with the Angus Council Speed Limit Strategy 2008 and a further report will be prepared for consideration by the committee following that review. Specifically following a request received on behalf of local residents it is recommended that a 40mph speed limit be implemented at Woodville by Arbroath.

**ERIC S LOWSON
DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES**

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:-

Report No 1397/06 – Setting Local Speed Limits.

Report No 266/08 – Speed Limit Review – A & B Class Local Roads.

Roads/JG/CH