

The Essex County Council (Various Roads, Hempstead) (30MPH & 40MPH Speed Limit) Order 201*

Statement of Reasons

Hampstead Parish Council raised concerns of vehicular speeds when entering Hampstead village, subsequently, they have requested via the Local Highways Panel an extension to Hampstead's existing 30mph speed limit. However, the nature of the proposed location does not meet the guidelines set in the Essex County Council's speed management strategy due to its rural nature. It is because of its rural nature that when approaching High Street, there is nothing to make drivers feel they are driving in a 30mph speed limit, which could result in drivers ignoring the 30mph.

As an agreed alternative with the Parish Council, a 40mph buffer is proposed to be introduced in order to contribute to a reduction of vehicular speeds approaching the village. A speed survey was undertaken in the vicinity of Boytons Lane which showed average speeds of 46mph, indicating that drivers would adjust their speed accordingly to the 40mph speed limit.

It is hoped that the proposed 40mph speed limit will contribute to reducing vehicles speeds approaching the village thereby avoiding danger to traffic using the road, facilitate the passage on the road (of any class of road user) and help preserve the amenities of the area through which the road runs.

We have also taken this opportunity to check the lengths of the existing 30mph speed limit on site and ensure the legal order matches these restrictions. This will involve revoking the entirety of the existing order which was made in 2008 and reintroducing the restrictions in the new order. No changes will be made on the ground in relation to the existing 30mph speed limit in Hempstead this is purely a paper based exercise.