

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCILCABINET3 June 2021Report by Director of EnvironmentTHE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
(A727 EAST KILBRIDE ROAD, BUSBY), (50MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2021**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. To submit for approval of the Cabinet the making and confirmation of 'The East Renfrewshire Council (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2021' (see Appendix 1).

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. The Cabinet is asked to:-
- a) approve the making and confirmation of the 'The East Renfrewshire Council (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2021'; and
 - b) delegate to the Director of Environment the implementation of the Order in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

BACKGROUND

3. The A727 within East Renfrewshire is a public road and recorded on the list of adopted roads which is kept by Roads & Transportation Service under the duties conferred on the Council by the Roads (Scotland) Act 1984. It extends from the boundary with Glasgow City Council, near the B769 Spiersbridge Road/Stewarton Road, to the boundary with South Lanarkshire Council, to the south-east of Busby. The majority of the road falls within built up urban areas and is subject to a 30 mph speed limit with only a short section at its eastern end between Busby and the South Lanarkshire Council boundary being rural in nature and subject to the National Speed Limit.

4. The Council has a duty under the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 to secure the safe movement of traffic on the local road network. One aim of the Councils' Local Transport Strategy is to adapt and manage the road network so that it can efficiently and safely meet the needs of all road users. (*Sect 12.5 LTS*)

5. The section of the A727 where it is proposed to reduce the speed limit from the National Speed Limit to 50mph is dual carriageway. The National Speed Limit on dual carriageways varies between 50mph and 70mph depending on the type of vehicle.

6. The section of road covers a distance of 340m or thereby and has physical characteristics that indicate to the driver that there is a transition between an urban and a rural road. The current speed limits on the approach, within and on the exit to this very short stretch of the A727 are inconsistent and are therefore unlikely to be complied with.

REPORT

7. The section of the A727 under consideration measures 0.34km in length and provides direct access to the public road network for 5 residential properties located on the south side of the road. There is no continuous footway on the south side of the road for use by pedestrians heading either westbound towards to Busby or east towards East Kilbride. Residents of the properties to the south side of the road therefore require to cross 4 lanes of high speed carriageway with a speed limit of up to 70mph in order to access the footway on the north side of the road which does offer a safe pedestrian route to either Busby or East Kilbride, etc.

8. Concerns have been raised over the speed of traffic driving over this short section of dual carriageway, which due to the current speed limit variation from 30mph to the National Speed Limit to 50 mph and vice-versa, can cause confusion to drivers and therefore risks the potential for increased non-compliance with safe and acceptable speeds.

9. A vehicular traffic Volume/Speed survey was carried out on the dual carriageway section of road in October 2020 and the average 2-way flow was found to be in the order of 11,167 vehicles/day (7-day average). Although 91% of vehicles recorded during this time were subject to the maximum permitted speed limit of 70mph, measurements show the 7-day average speeds were 43.3mph eastbound and 38.7mph westbound. The 7-day 85thile speed were 49.3mph eastbound and 43.5mph westbound. The “85th percentile” speed is the speed at which 85% of traffic will be travelling at, or below, along a street or road. Whilst it is encouraging that to see the majority of traffic was travelling well within the permitted speed limit, it is considered appropriate to lower the maximum permitted limit to a more acceptable level commensurate with the characteristics and layout of the road and its location in direct relationship to a number of residential properties and the adjacent urban setting of Busby (see Appendix 2).

10. It is proposed to lower the speed limit over this short stretch of dual carriageway thus eliminating the inconsistent speed limit variation from 30mph to National Speed Limit to 50mph and vice-versa.

11. A consultation on the proposed reduction to the speed limit was carried out from 26 February 2021 until 31 March 2021 in compliance with "The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) Scotland Regulations 1999 (and subsequent amendments)". The emergency services and all other organisations/persons likely to be affected by any provision in the order, including Busby Community Council, Elected Members and the adjacent local authority South Lanarkshire Council, were notified of the proposals by email. A Public Notice advising of the proposals was published in the 'Glasgow Evening Times' newspaper which circulates in the area and on the 'Tell Me Scotland' website informing of the consultation, advising where the relative documentation and drawings giving details of the proposals could be viewed and where any representations or objections to the proposals should be sent.

12. At the termination of the statutory consultation period a small number of representations had been received, the majority of which stated a preference for the speed limit to be reduced to 30 or 40mph, however no formal objections to the proposed 50mph limit were received (see Appendix 3).

FINANCE AND EFFICIENCY

13. All financial implications associated with making the Traffic Regulation Order will come from existing resources.

14. By approving this proposed Order and on completion of the works involved there will be an immediate safety benefit offered to the public by the introduction of a reduced speed limit for all vehicles travelling through the transition area between a rural and urban road.

CONSULTATION

15. 'The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (Scotland) Regulations 1999' sets out the statutory requirements for consultation. The Council has met the procedural requirements.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

16. The proposed Order involved partnership working between the Council and Police Scotland and through the statutory process of a formal public consultation.

IMPLICATIONS OF THE PROPOSALS

17. By approving this proposed Order there will be minimal future financial and staffing implications resulting from normal maintenance cost associated with occasional sign replacements.

18. There will be no staffing, property, legal, IT, State Aid, equality and sustainability implications arising from the proposals.

CONCLUSIONS

19. 'The East Renfrewshire Council (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2021', if approved and introduced, will:

- Implement a reduced speed limit applicable to all road vehicle users in order to address speeding and safety concerns particularly on the approach to an urban area,
- promote safe travel thus contributing to a potential reduction in accident casualties as per the aims of the Councils current Local Transport Strategy

RECOMMENDATIONS

20. The Cabinet is asked to:-

- a) approve the making and confirmation of the 'The East Renfrewshire Council (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2021'; and
- b) delegate to the Director of Environment the implementation of the Order in accordance with the associated statutory procedures.

Director of Environment

For further information contact: Patrick Doherty, Senior Traffic Officer, Email address:
patrick.doherty@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk.

Convener contact details

Councillor Alan Lafferty
(Convener for Environment)

Home: 0141 621 1113
Mobile: 07812 214366

May 2021

BACKGROUND PAPERS

East Renfrewshire Council Local Transport Strategy 2008-2011, Section 12.5

APPENDIX 1

STATEMENT OF REASON

**THE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
(A727 EAST KILBRIDE ROAD, BUSBY)
(50MPH SPEED LIMIT)
ORDER 20[**]**

A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby

This proposal relates to that section of the A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby between the existing 30mph restriction, approximately 50m southeast of the main built up area of Busby, and the existing 50mph restriction at the boundary with South Lanarkshire Council, a distance of 340m or thereby.

This stretch of the A727 East Kilbride Road is a dual carriageway and indicates to the driver that there is a transition between an urban and rural road. However, the speed limits on the approach to, within and on the exit are inconsistent and therefore unlikely to be complied with.

It is proposed to change the current speed limit over this section of road from the *National Speed Limit (NSL) for a dual carriageway to 50mph for all vehicles, thus eliminating the inconsistent variations from '30mph - *NSL - 50 mph' and vice-versa, over this short section of the public road network.

* *The National Speed Limit on dual carriageways varies from 50mph to 70mph depending on type of vehicle.*

170

PROPOSED ORDER

**THE EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL
(A727 EAST KILBRIDE ROAD, BUSBY)
(50MPH SPEED LIMIT)
ORDER 20[**]**

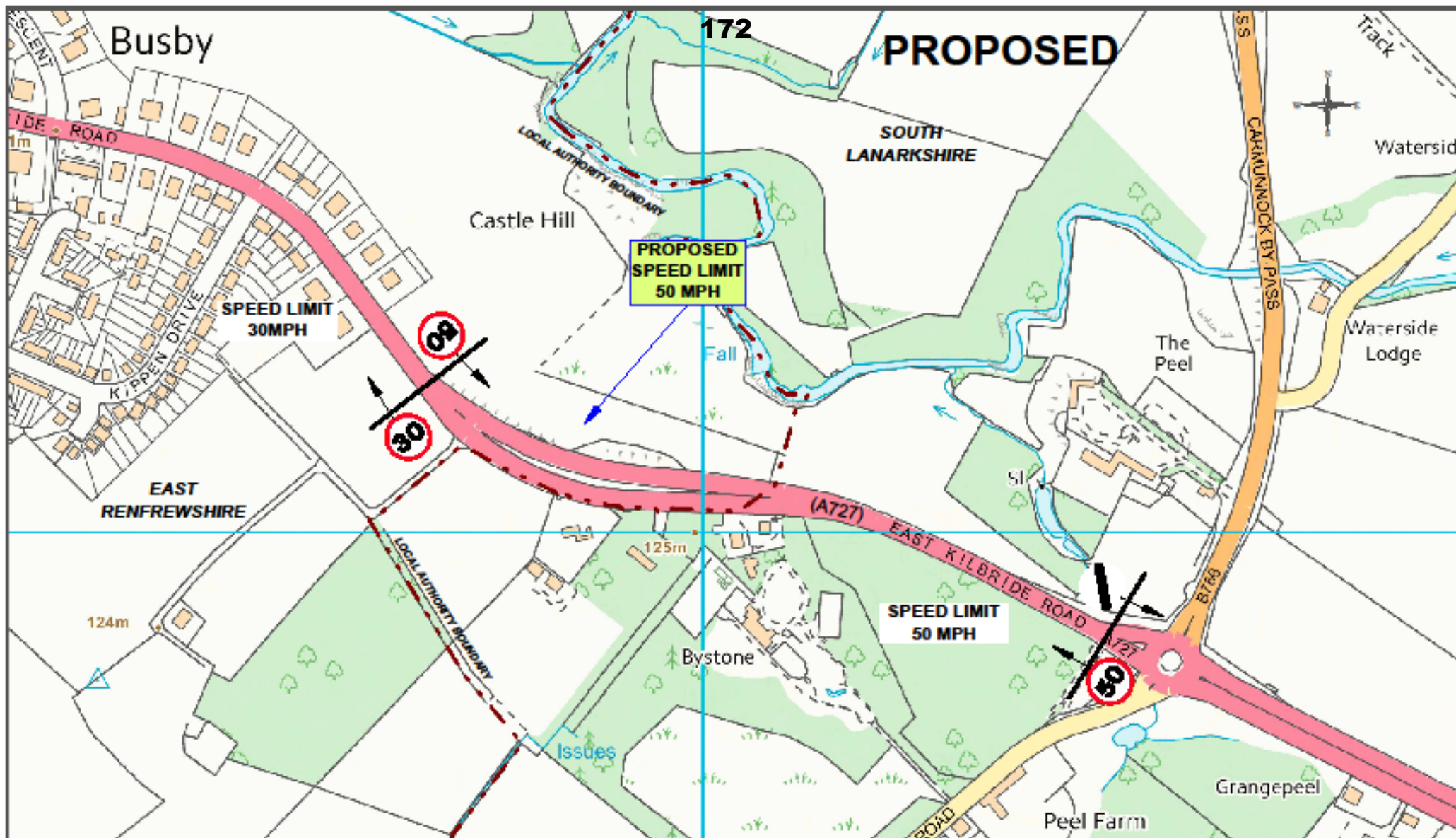
The East Renfrewshire Council, in exercise of the powers conferred on them by Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("the Act") and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the Chief Constable of Police Scotland in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act, hereby propose to make the following Order:

1. This Order may be cited as 'The East Renfrewshire Council, (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby), (50mph Speed Limit) Order 20[**]' and shall come into operation on ***(date to be advised)***.
2. No person shall drive any motor vehicle at a speed exceeding 50mph on the length of road specified in the Schedule to this Order.
3. This Order shall have effect subject to the following variation of existing orders:
The provisions of any existing orders, whether made or having effect as if made under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended or under any other enactment, are hereby varied to the extent that the provisions are inconsistent with this Order.
4. Given under the seal of The East Renfrewshire Council and signed for them and on their behalf by Gerard James Mahon, Chief Officer (Legal and Procurement) and duly Authorised Signatory together at Giffnock on the ***(date to be advised)***.

SCHEDULE

50 MPH SPEED LIMIT

That section of the A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby between the existing 30mph restriction, approximately 50m southeast of the main built up area of Busby, and the existing 50mph restriction at the boundary with South Lanarkshire Council, a distance of 340m or thereby.



Drawing Info.

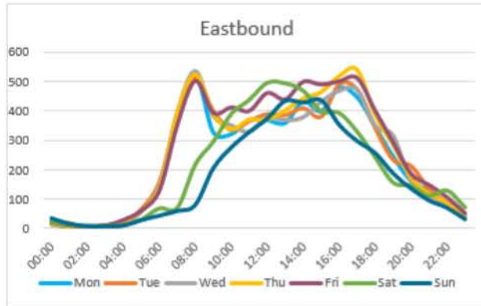
- * National Speed Limit on dual carriageways varies between 50mph to 70mph depending on type of vehicle.

EAST RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL - ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT
 Roads Service - 2 Spiesbridge Way, Spiesbridge Business Park, Thornliebank, G46 8NG
 Head of Service - G. McCarney

Drawing Title		Date
The East Renfrewshire Council (A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby) (50mph Speed Limit) Order 2021		DEC 2020
Dwg No.		Scale
EN-58-40-305 - PROPOSED	Rev. -	Not to scale
File Ref.	Dwg By.	
EN-58-40-305	PD	



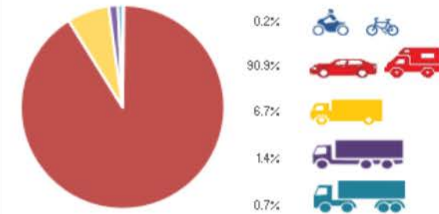
APPENDIX 2



Direction	7-Day Average Speed	7-Day 85th %ile Speed
Eastbound	43.3	49.3
	mph	mph

On a 7-day average		
0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
of vehicles are travelling over posted speed limit (PSL)	of vehicles are traveling 10% +2 over PSL (79mph)	of vehicles are 15mph over PSL (85mph)

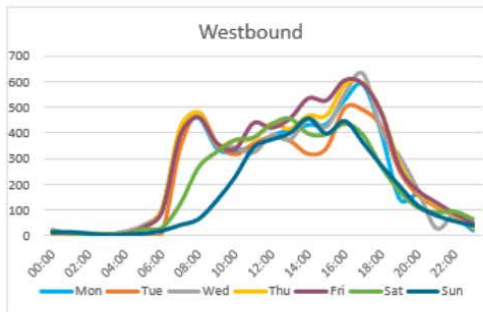
Traffic Composition by Class - Total Surveyed Vehicles



Direction	Weekday Average Total Traffic	7-Day Average Traffic	Weekly Traffic Total
Eastbound	5967	5577	39039



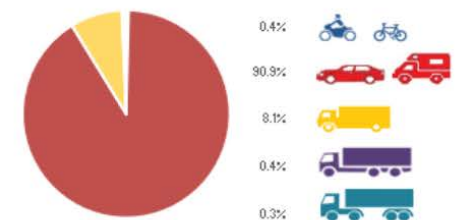
Incidents/Observations
No incidents or observations during the survey period



Direction	7-Day Average Speed	7-Day 85th %ile Speed
Westbound	38.7	43.5
	mph	mph

On a 7-day average		
0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
of vehicles are travelling over posted speed limit (PSL)	of vehicles are traveling 10% +2 over PSL (79mph)	of vehicles are 15mph over PSL (85mph)

Traffic Composition by Class - Total Surveyed Vehicles



Direction	Weekday Average Total Traffic	7-Day Average Traffic	Weekly Traffic Total
Westbound	6022	5590	39048



Incidents/Observations
Data loss occurred during the survey period. See "Data Summary" file for further details.

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APPENDIX 3

A727 East Kilbride Road, Busby - Proposed 50mph Speed Limit - Consultation Summary																			
	TYPE	Name	Address	Received	Letter or Email	Breif Summary of Representation	Roads comments	Proposed Resolution	Response sent										
1	Supports	Local resident	East Kilbride Road, Busby	25-Feb-21	Email	<i>"....delighted to support the proposal."</i>	-	Improvements to the road layout and markings will be carried out to further enhance road safety and encourage/influence a reduction in vehicle speeds.	19-Apr-21										
2	Representation	ERC Councillor (i)	East Renfrewshire Council	26-Feb-21	Email (i)	<i>".... 30mph rather than 50mph would create a "safety buffer" to further reduce speed of motor vehicles once they entered Busby" Questioning the reason for 50mph rather than 30mph</i>	Police Scotland have confirmed they will not support a reduction of the speed limit below 50mph. The Council can not promote a Traffic Order that the Police will not support and enforce.			16-Apr-21									
	Representation			26-Feb-21	Email (ii)	<i>".... needs to be changed to 30mph"</i>													
3	Supports	ERC Councillor (ii)	East Renfrewshire Council	26-Feb-21	Email (i)	<i>"....you have my support."</i>						16-Apr-21							
	Representation			26-Feb-21	Email (ii)	<i>".... in consultation with ERC Councillor (i) , both of us support the revised signage on the part of the dual carriageway heading out of Busby towards East Kilbride. (Referring to the west bound carriageway only i.e. towards Busby).....surely this should be reduced to 30mph"</i>													
4	Representation	Local resident	East Kilbride Road, Busby	27-Feb-21	Email	<i>".... broadly welcome however reduce the speed limit to 30mph as opposed to 50 mph as proposed."</i>								19-Apr-21					
5	Representation	SLC Councillor	South Lanarkshire Council	01-Mar-21	Email	<i>"I would agree with the points raised by ERC Councillor (i). This small stretch of road requires to be made safer and these proposals will not make it safer. Further I would support a 30mph limit."</i>										16-Apr-21			
6	Representation	ERC Councillor (iii)	East Renfrewshire Council	04-Mar-21	Email	<i>"...instead of a 50MPH limit on this stretch would it be possible to liaise with Police Scotland and request that this is reduced to a 40MPH limit here"</i>												16-Apr-21	
7	Representation	Local resident	East Kilbride Road, Busby	07-Mar-21	Email	<i>"...I certainly welcome a reduction in speed limit." and "Reducing the limit from 50mph to 40mph for this populated section of road would also actively encourage a safer and more controlled arrival at Busby and the 30mph area."</i>													19-Apr-21
8	Supports	Police Scotland	Police Scotland	10-Mar-21	Email	<i>"..no objections or further comments to make."</i>													20-Apr-21

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