

Communities, Economy & Transport

Rupert Clubb
BEng (Hons) CEng FICE
Director

County Hall
St Anne's Crescent
Lewes
East Sussex
BN7 1UE



Tel: 0345 60 80 190

www.eastsussex.gov.uk

Hadlow Down Parish Council by email

Date 12 December 2024

Dear Ms Weatherill

Proposed Lower Speed Limits on A272 at Hadlow Down and A267 Five Ashes to Cross in Hand

You may be aware the Lead Member for Transport and Environment, Councillor Claire Dowling approved an allocation of £500,000 to a three year 'Speed Management Programme' to review speed limits across the County's A and B class road network, assess whether existing speed limits are appropriate and identify areas where they could be reduced or made more effective.

The Road Safety Team have now completed the appraisal which assessed each road against a prioritisation framework. This took into account a range of factors such as the character of the road and the environment, the average speed of vehicles, the likely number of vulnerable road users, facilities such as schools, shops and medical facilities in the area and the existing crash record. This process has identified a priority list of sixteen sites to be taken forward over the first two years of the Speed Management Programme. Further sites will be assessed and prioritised in future years.

You will be pleased to learn that some of the sites identified are in your parish, the A272 at Hadlow Down and A267 Five Ashes to Cross in Hand. The assessment has identified that a lower speed limit would be appropriate in these locations.

It is proposed that the existing 50mph speed limit on the A272 Main Road to the east of Hadlow Down be reduced to 40mph, and the existing national speed limit on A272 Curtains Hill to the west of Hadlow Down be reduced to 50mph. We will also be introducing measures to help improve compliance with the existing 30mph speed limit in Hadlow Down.

It is also proposed that the existing 40mph speed limit on the A267 at Five Ashes be extended to a point south of the A272 Summer Hill junction, and a 50mph speed limit be introduced between that point and the existing 40mph speed limit at Cross in Hand.

It is important to highlight the average speed, the character of the road and environment mean that we would not be able to introduce lower speed limits on these roads as they would not comply with our Local Speed Limit Policy PS05/02.

As you may be aware, before we can change a speed limit, we have to progress a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO). This process normally takes between 6 and 9-months to complete, as we must carry out various consultations and follow a statutory procedure before we can request a cost estimate from our Contractor for the new traffic signs and road markings to be introduced. Any objections received during the

formal advertisement of the proposed TRO will need to be considered by our Planning Committee.

The Road Safety Team will advise you when we carry out the statutory consultation procedure and the date of the advertisement of the TRO.

As the measures to improve compliance within the existing 30mph speed limit at Hadlow Down do not require a TRO they will be introduced in Summer 2025. The speed limits on the A272 at Hadlow Down will be progressed during the first year of the Speed Management Programme. It is anticipated that this scheme will be implemented during Winter 2025/26. The speed limits on the A267 between Five Ashes and Cross in Hand will be progressed in the second year of the programme and it is anticipated that this scheme will be implemented during 2026.

If you require any additional information with respect to the above, please contact traffic.safety@eastsussex.gov.uk.

Yours sincerely



Nick Skelton
Assistant Director - Communities
Tel: 01273 482994
Nick.skelton@eastsussex.gov.uk