

Agenda Item	7.
Report No	SCC/24/17

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

Committee: Sutherland County Committee

Date: 29 November 2017

Report Title: Edderton Speed Limit

Report By: Director of Community Services

1 Purpose/Executive Summary

1.1 This report addresses the Members' decision to promote the reduction of the 40mph speed limit to a 30mph speed limit on the A836 through Edderton Village taken at the Sutherland County Committee on Tuesday 9th February 2016.

2 Recommendations

2.1 Members are asked to:-

- i. reject the request for a 30 mph Speed Limit on the A836 through Edderton; and
- ii. agree to the introduction of standardised 40mph repeater signs through the village.

3 Background

- 3.1 The report submitted to The Sutherland County Committee on the 16 February 2016 recommended that members reject the request from the Community to reduce the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph.
- 3.2 Officers recommended refusal on the grounds that a reduction of speed limit from 40mph to 30mph would not meet the requirements of National Guidelines or conform to the design standards in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges.
- 3.3 The County Committee agreed to recommend that the speed limit be reduced in accordance with the Community request on the following grounds:-
- i. Scottish Executive Circular No 1/2006 (“Setting Local Speed Limits”) Section 6.3 Paragraph 100 explains in general terms that fear of traffic can affect people’s quality of life in villages and that villages should have comparable speed limits to similar roads in urban areas;
 - ii. if there are fewer than 20 houses, Traffic Authorities should make extra allowances for any other key buildings, such as a church, shop or school;
 - iii. Edderton has both a church and school and also bus stops on the A836; and
 - iv. the strength of community feeling over many years has been evidenced to the satisfaction of all Ward Members continually since 2008.

4 Legal Position

- 4.1 The draft Traffic Order was submitted to Legal Services for drawing up and advertisement in September 2017.
- 4.2 In October 2017 Legal services notified Community Services of concern that the reasons stated in the minutes for the promotion of the order could leave the Council exposed to valid legal challenges in the light of the analysis carried out under the guidelines by the Council.

5. Implications

- 5.1 Resource - No implications.
- 5.2 Legal - No implications.
- 5.3 Community (Equality, Poverty and Rural) - No implications.
- 5.4 Climate Change / Carbon Clever – No implications
- 5.5 Risk - No implications.
- 5.6 Gaelic - No implications.

Designation: Director of Community Services

Date: 03 November 2017

Author: Graham Mackenzie, Roads Operations Manager