

Appendix 5 - Summary of Recommendations

The review has determined that the vast majority of the existing speed limits within the borough conform with the 'Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales' guidance and only a small number of road sections have been identified as requiring further consideration/revisions of the existing speed limit.

The table below provides a summary of the recommendations from the speed limit review and a precis of the comments received.

Road	Link	Location	Recommendation	Comments Received
A467	7	Pantside junction to the south of Aiwa traffic signals	Increase current 40mph speed limit to National (60mph) to compliment existing speed limit to north of link. Additional signage to be provided in advance of Pantside junction.	Cllr G Johnston has objected to raising the speed limit on the approach to the junction with Pantside from 40 to National. He considers that if the traffic isn't slowed (as it presently is) then vehicles will be travelling around the bend even faster and will give drivers less time to see before they pull out of Pantside junction.
A469	4	Tirphil	Mean speed (36mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.
A469	7	Puzzle House junction, Bargoed	Increase current 40mph speed limit to National (60mph) from junction as far as existing 30mph signs to the south of Groesfaen Terrace. Reduce length of 30mph speed limit on Factory Road and extend 40mph limit to east of Puzzle House junction.	Gwent Police have expressed concern about removing the 40mph speed limit at Puzzle House junction and the reduction of the 30mph area in the rural area Bargoed side of the terraced houses. Gwent Police consider that the road from A469 towards Deri currently has a 40mph speed limit which does not seem to be appropriate although it is reduced prior to the residential area at the top of the hill. They have also indicated that over the last two years they have received a number of complaints from the residents of Groesfaen Terrace regarding the speed of the vehicles through the 30 MPH zone which is currently outside their homes and located on a sharp bend. They have also carried out speed surveys in the area and believe that the current buffer zones are required to keep the speed of vehicles down.

				<p>Cllr D Hardacre has objected to the proposal to increase the current 40mph speed limit to National (between Puzzle House junction and the 30 mph speed limit at the entrance to Groesfaen Terrace) and considers that this should remain at the 30mph. Cllr Hardacre also considers that this is a very dangerous stretch of road as cars currently access the terrace at well over the 30mph limit and feels that increasing the entrance road speed up to 60 mph will increase the speed of vehicles entering the village which is causing huge safety concerns at present.</p> <p>Cllr D Hardacre has also advised that the residents are proposing that the council put in place chicanes at the entrance to the village from both northern and southern routes in order to curb the speed through the village. He feels that there will be a huge upsurge of anger and resentment if these proposals of increasing entrance speeds are allowed to be adopted.</p>
A469	10/11	Britannia Roundabout to Lewis Boys School	Increase current 50mph speed limit to National speed limit.	None.
A469	22	Watford Road to County Boundary (Caerphilly Mountain)	Decrease the speed limit for part of the link along Thornhill Road from National to 40mph and relocate the existing 40/National speed limit signs to the top of Caerphilly mountain.	<p>Cllr C Elsbury welcomes the move to reduce the speed, but considers that this will not address the main problem on the road as it will not reduce the speed of traffic as it enters the 40mph zone by the Chapel. As a result he feels that traffic will continue at a pace down the hill past the areas where there have been the most collisions/accidents.</p> <p>Cllr C Elsbury has also raised concern about the level of enforcement that the police will be able to give to the new reduced speed limit.</p>
A4048	6	Argoed	Mean speed (40.2mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.

A4048	7	Argoed to Hollybush	Increase current speed limit from 50mph to National (60mph).	None.
A4048	8/9	Speed limit signs to the north of Hollybush	Relocate speed limit gateway to improve visibility of 30mph signs.	None.
A4049	3	Fleur-de-lis to Fairview traffic signals	Mean speed (33.7mph) is marginally too high for existing 30mph limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.
A4049	5	Britannia to Aberbargoed roundabout	Mean Speed (34.6mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.
A4049	6	Aberbargoed to New Tredegar	Increase current speed limit from 50mph to National (60mph).	None.
A4049	7	New Tredegar to Tirphil	Install a new 40mph buffer zone between the current speed limit sections of 50mph and 30mph.	None.
B4254	1	Gelligaer Road	Increase current speed limit from 40mph to National (60mph) and improve visibility on access to reed bed farm facility.	<p>The Highways Maintenance Manager has expressed concern that an increased speed limit could cause safety issues for tankers and sweeper vehicles when exiting the reed bed farm facility.</p> <p>The Chair of CCBC Events Safety Advisory Group has raised concern about increasing the speed limit to National on the B4254, particularly at the entrance/exit to Llancaiach Fawr Manor House for the following reasons:</p> <p>The Manor House venue hosts many large events throughout the year whereby off-site parking and alternative access points are arranged. This can necessitate people having to walk down the verges to access the site – including children for some events such as the Eisteddfod. For certain events, temporary traffic lights and one-way systems have been used on the adjacent highway e.g. for Bedwellty Agricultural Show – this would be even more problematic if the speed were increased. Even without such arrangements, cars exiting the site</p>

				<p>would need to exit directly onto a fast road.</p> <p>Road traffic collisions have previously occurred near the reed beds access, so sweepers etc. having to cross the highway to access the site would pose a potential hazard to oncoming vehicles.</p> <p>It is suggested that it may be more appropriate to reduce the entire stretch to 40mph, especially along the bend where multiple large vehicles access and egress the reed bed site every day.</p>
B4254	2/3	Speed limit gateway to the west of Gelligaer village	Install a new 40mph buffer zone between the current speed limit sections of 30mph and National (60mph).	None.
B4254	7	Oak Terrace Bypass	Mean speed (39.4mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.
B4257	2	Llechryd to Rhymney	Increase current speed limit from 30mph to 40mph.	Cllr C Cuss has objected to the proposed increase in speed limit from 30mph to 40mph as he has received complaints about how fast cars drive along the road. He has further advised that there are 30mph signs in this vicinity and consider that they should remain.
B4263	3	Thomas Street, Abertridwr	Mean speed (36.1mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.
B4511	3	Markham	Mean speed (36.5mph) too high for existing 30mph speed limit. Speed management measures to be considered.	None.

In addition to the above responses, Cllr Sean Morgan, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure, Sustainability and Wellbeing of Future Generations has provided the following comments. **It should be noted that the comments relate to sections of A472 route where no changes to the existing speed limits have been identified/recommended by the speed limit review and these will be subject to further assessment as part of the review process:**

Consideration should be given to lowering the speed limit along the A472 route, Nelson to Ystrad Mynach from 60mph to 40mph. Cllr Morgan considers that the speed limit reduction is necessary for the following reasons:

- The increase in traffic.
- The addition of an entry/exit to Penallta Park, on top of the many entry/exits to a pub, butchers shop, an 18 bed hostel for the homeless and to a B&B.
- The increase in pedestrian use of the road due to the 18 bed hostel. In order for residents to walk to either Nelson or Ystrad Mynach, either way, they have to cross a 60mph road and in each case at a precarious point near a bend or blind crest. 18 people making 2 crossings per day (there and back) over 365 days equals a minimum crossing of 13,140 per annum. This is surely “an accident waiting to happen”.

Consideration should also be given to lowering the speed limit along the A472, along Mabon Road, Nelson (by the Railway pub, Co-op and garage) from 40mph to 30mph. Cllr Morgan considers that the speed limit reduction is necessary for the following reasons:

- The increase in traffic.
- The amount of entry/exit points in such a short space and on both sides of the road.
- The high use of the crossing points as the road intersects a busy housing estate and the main Co-op store.
- The increased pedestrian use due, in the near future, because of the recent granting of planning permission for 200 houses on the “wrong” side of the road. In order for the residents of this new housing estate to access schools, shops and other services within the village they would have to cross this busy, fast and (due to the many businesses along it) distracting piece of road.