

Wiltshire Council

Full Council

17 October 2023

Item 15 – Members’ Questions

From Cllr Derek Walters – Corsham Without

To Cllr Richard Clewer, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Military-Civilian Integration, Heritage, Arts, Tourism, Health and Wellbeing

Question (23-20)

On Points West broadcast on 5th September Richard Clewer stated that the speed limit on the Bradford Road, Rudloe outside the primary school could not be dropped below 40mph legally?

Could Richard confirm this as accurate and if so, reference the law that he refers to.

Response:

Speed limits are set under the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions (TSRGD) 2016. This is a Statutory Instrument, and these regulations apply to all roads in England. It is the Highway Authority’s duty under section 85 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 to place speed limit signs in accordance with TSRGD. To determine an appropriate limit, Wiltshire Council, in common with all Local Authorities use the DfT Guidelines - Setting local speed limits, as updated in 2013.

Changes to a speed limit must be subject to a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which goes through a consultation process. To be clear, the recently advertised Traffic Regulation Order for Bradford Road along the section in question is for a speed limit of 40mph.

It is possible for Wiltshire Council to set a different speed limit to that proposed in a Traffic Regulation Order following a review of the consultation responses alongside the DfT Guidance. I apologise for not making that clear, but I was not aware at the time that this was possible.

As a moving traffic enforcement, the Police are the enforcement authority for speed limits and accordingly, their support is required prior to implementation of any speed limit changes.