

**HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT
TRAFFIC & NETWORK MANAGEMENT**

**SNARLTON LANE
Melksham**

**20mph Speed
Restriction Assessment**

Document Control Sheet

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Report Title: 20mph Speed Restriction Assessment

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1.0 Introduction and background

Following the publication of Wiltshire Councils policy for 20mph speed limits, the authority committed to undertaking assessment across the 18 Community Areas. Each of the Community Areas were requested to nominate a defined area for assessment during 2014/15.

Snarlton Lane, Melksham has been locally identified and selected by the Community Area Transport Group as a possible suitable location for a 20 mph speed restriction.

This report sets out the analysis of this location against “Wiltshire Policy on 20mph Speed Limits and Zones” and the Department of Transport (DfT) Circular 01/2013 “Setting Local Speed Limits”.

The above guidance will be used to determine if Snarlton Lane and its surrounding area is a suitable location for a 20mph speed restriction. Full extents of the area selected to be studied is set out in Appendix A.

2.0 Data Collection

Average speed and volume of traffic was recorded using a device called a Metrocount. This is a roadside unit with sensors placed across the road.

Two metrocounts were installed at either end of Snarlton Lane in Melksham. They were put in place from 28th November 2014 – 6th December 2014.

The exact location of each counter is identified in Appendix A.

Table 1 below sets out a summary of the results of each metrocount:

Metro Count Number	Total Traffic Volume (annual average daily traffic)	85th %ile Speed (mph)	Mean Average Speed (mph)
1	467	27.7	22.1
2	248	24.6	20.1

Table 1 – Summary of metrocount results

3.0 Collision Data

An investigation into the Police Collision Database shows there has been one recorded Personal Injury Collision in the 6 years prior to this report, which resulted in a serious injury to a pedal cyclist.

This occurred in 2010, at the junction of Snarlton Lane and the A3102. A car pulled out of Snarlton Lane into Stop/Go Traffic control. Realising the traffic was against them, the driver reversed back into Snarlton Lane and struck a cyclist behind them.

As this incident occurred at the junction of Snarlton Lane and the A3102, it can be discounted from the results of this report, because if speed restrictions are recommended, they will be put in place at the start of Snarlton Lane.

4.0 Analysis against Wiltshire Council Policy

It is important to remember that all speed limits should be set where it can be expected that overall compliance with the limit can be realistically achieved. Higher recorded speeds are generally not reduced with signing alone and are likely to require hard engineering measures such as alteration to the road layout and/or road humps.

With the above in mind, there are two different types of 20mph speed restriction – a 20mph Zone or a 20mph Speed Limit.

Wiltshire Council policy has considered previous studies into 20mph speed limits and zones as well as the guidance from DfT Circular 01/2013. Wiltshire Council policy identifies the options to consider when implementing 20mph zones and limits within Wiltshire:

20mph Zones:

20mph zones are defined as areas subject to a 20mph speed restriction which cover a number of roads and are supported by the appropriate traffic order and signs.

Typically there will be traffic calming measures at regular intervals throughout the zone to ensure speeds remain consistent in the area. This could include the addition of road humps and raised junctions as well as build outs, chicanes or pinch points.

20mph zones to be considered where:

- Roads are restricted to a 30mph speed limit
- A proven history of road user conflict with vulnerable users such as child pedestrians is apparent.
- New residential developments
- Where there is an alternative route existing, so drivers are able to avoid the zone.
- On major streets if there is a significant number of journeys on foot or bicycle and this outweighs the disadvantage of longer journeys for motorists.

20mph Speed Limits:

20mph limits are defined as streets where the speed restriction has been reduced to 20mph but where there are no physical calming measures. Drivers are alerted to the restriction by the use of terminal and repeater signs only.

20mph Speed Limits to be considered where:

- Mean before speeds are at or below 24mph (if they are just above this threshold lighter touch engineering measures to reduce speed may be implemented)
- On roads which do not have a strategic function or where motor vehicle movement is not the primary function.
- On major streets if there is a significant number of journeys on foot or bicycle and this outweighs the disadvantage of longer journeys for motorists.
- In rural areas where the location in addition to the above conditions meets the definition of a village as set out in Traffic Advisory Leaflet “01/04 – Village Speed Limits”.

5.0 Recommendation

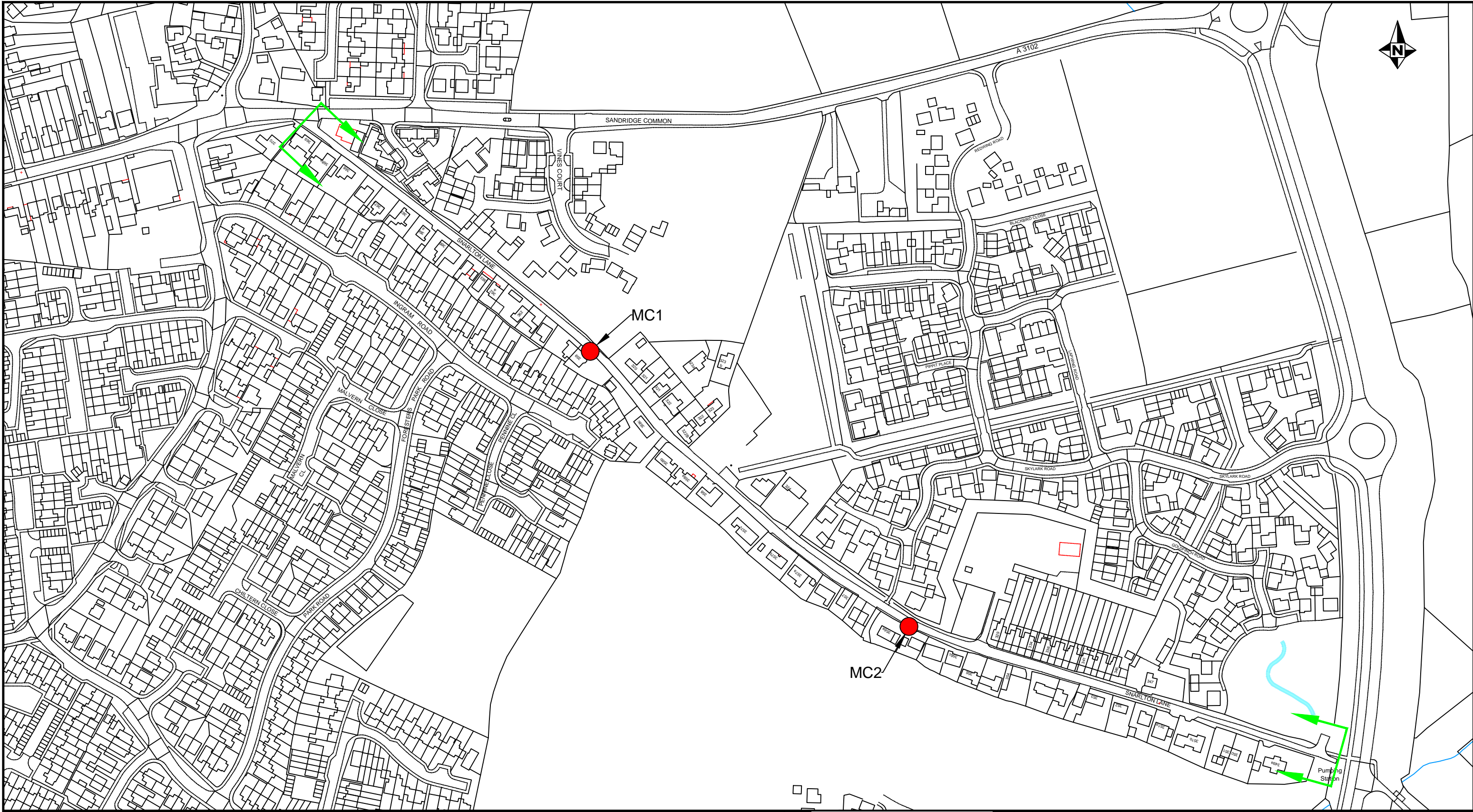
Results have shown that mean average traffic speeds along Snarlton Lane are well within the guidance threshold of 24mph.

Based on the analysis of the speed and collision data for Snarlton Lane and comparing these results with Wiltshire Council Policy on implementing 20mph speed limits and zones, it is recommended that Snarlton Lane be considered for a 20mph speed limit.

It is estimated the cost to implement this scheme would be in the region of £3000. It should be noted this is the expected cost required from the Community Area Transport Group and does not include development and legal costs which will be borne by Wiltshire Council centrally.

6.0 Appendix A

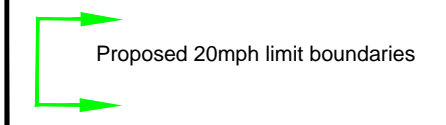
Requested area of assessment and exact locations of Metrocounts:



NOTES:

Locations of Metro Counts:

- MC1** - Outside 359 Snarltan Lane on telegraph pole
- MC2** - Outside 356a Snarltan Lane on telegraph pole



X/Y Co-ordinates:
391725 164029

Postcode:
SN12 7QW

Wiltshire Council
Where everybody matters

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O	09/14	SJA	MJR		ORIGINAL
REV	DATE	DRAWN	CHECK	APPRV	DESCRIPTION
DRAWING PURPOSE: DRAFT					

PROJECT: Melksham CATG Requests for 20mph Speed Limits			
DRAWING TITLE: Proposed locations for Metro Count Snarltan Lane, Melksham LOCATION 16			
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