

ANGUS COUNCIL

COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE – 15 AUGUST 2023

U390 AT BACKWATER DAM – AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING SPEED LIMITS

REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

ABSTRACT

This report informs the Committee of concerns raised over fully laden timber lorries travelling over the road bridge on the U390 at Backwater Dam and a request to reduce the speed limits in the vicinity of the road bridge.

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Committee:

- (i) notes the concerns raised by Scottish Water’s Structural Engineers;
- (ii) agrees to the implementation of the proposed amendments to the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam; and
- (iii) instructs the Director of Infrastructure and Environment to seek authorisation from the Secretary of State to amend the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam.

2. ALIGNMENT TO THE COUNCIL PLAN

This report also contributes to the following priorities contained within the Angus Council Plan 2023-2028:

Caring for our Place:

- We will maintain our roads, pavements, lighting, and other infrastructure efficiently and will focus on our priority routes and infrastructure.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 A request was recently received from Scottish Water for the reduction of the existing speed limit on the U390 at Backwater Dam down to 10mph, following a structural analysis of the road bridge over the spillway at the dam.
- 3.2 The U390 over Backwater Dam is used on a regular basis by timber lorries in conjunction with timber removal near Glenhead Farm. This timber removal is an ongoing activity with works scheduled to be carried out over the next few years.
- 3.3 Due to the volume and weight of fully laden timber lorries using the U390, Scottish Water initiated a structural analysis of the road bridge. An analysis of the results has shown that the bridge is in a satisfactory condition, however, in order for fully laden timber lorries to continue to be able to cross the bridge, the structural engineers have advised that a 10mph speed restriction should be imposed.
- 3.4 Intermediate transition (buffer) speed limits of 40mph will be required on both approaches to the proposed reduced (10mph) speed limit covering the extents of the road bridge of the U390.

4. PROPOSALS

4.1 A plan (**Appendix 1**) has been attached to this report that shows the proposed amendments to the existing speed limits on the U390 at Backwater Dam.

4.2 The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (as amended) enables local authorities to make various orders for regulating traffic, including orders regulating the speed of vehicles on roads other than trunk roads and states that orders for speed limits below 20mph (i.e., a 10mph speed limit) cannot be made without the consent of the Secretary of State.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The costs associated with the required Traffic Order and signage is estimated at £3,000 which can be contained within the 2023/24 Traffic Road Safety Revenue Budget; and £200 annual revenue costs which need to be contained within the Roads Maintenance Revenue Budget.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed.

7. CONSULTATION

The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive, Director of Finance, Director of Legal and Democratic Services were consulted in the preparation of this report.

NOTE: The background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) which were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report are:

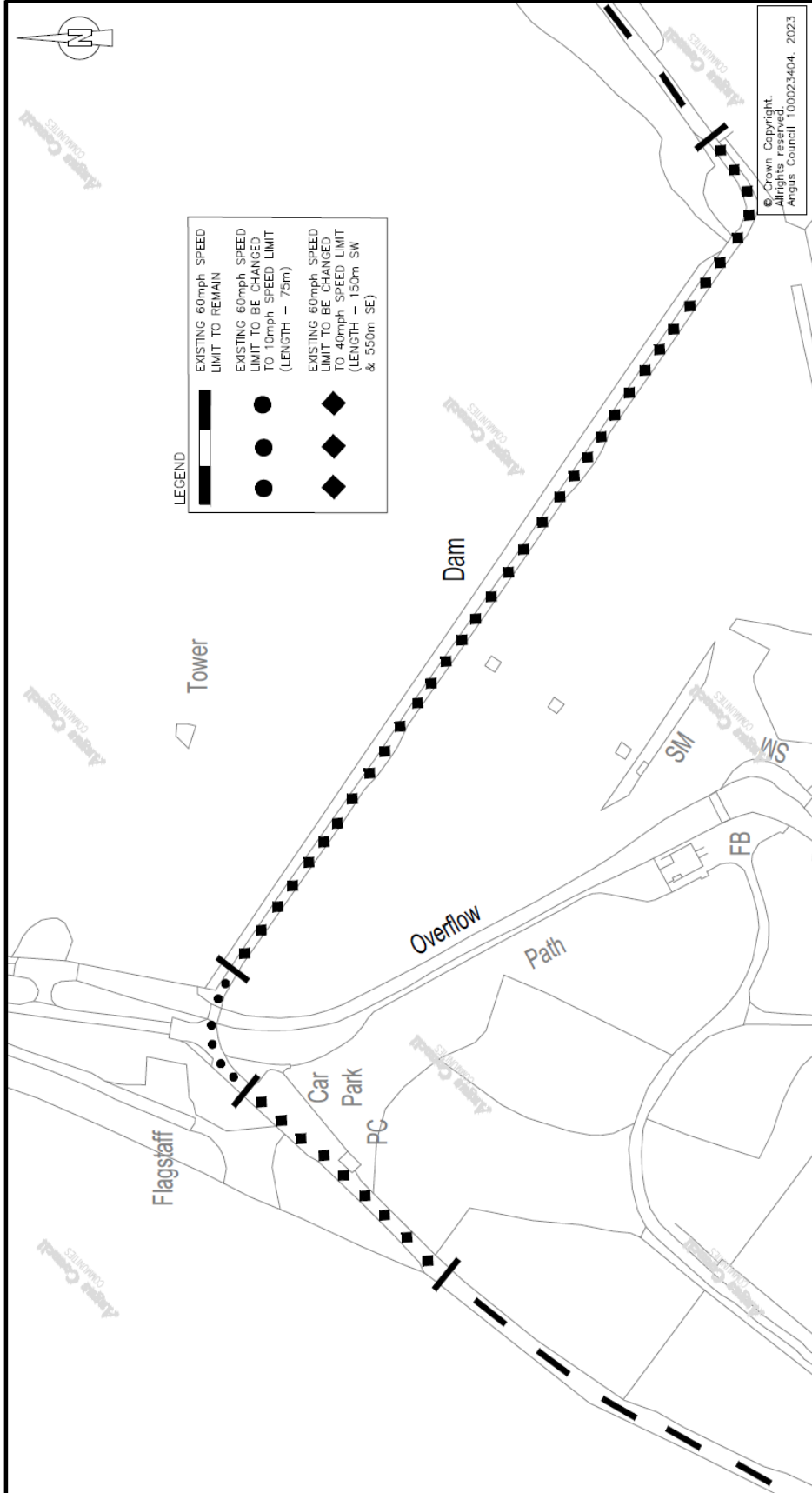
- Report No.1397/06 “Setting Local Speed Limits” – Infrastructure Services Committee on 23 November 2006
- Report No. 266/08 “Speed Limit Review – A & B Class Local Roads” – Infrastructure Services Committee on 4 March 2008

REPORT AUTHOR: Graeme Dailly, Director of Infrastructure and Environment

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List of Appendices:

- Appendix 1: Proposed Amendment to Existing Speed Limits – U390 at Backwater Dam
- Appendix 2: Equalities Impact Assessment



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LEGEND

	EXISTING 60mph SPEED LIMIT TO REMAIN
	EXISTING 60mph SPEED LIMIT TO BE CHANGED TO 10mph SPEED LIMIT (LENGTH - 75m)
	EXISTING 60mph SPEED LIMIT TO BE CHANGED TO 40mph SPEED LIMIT (LENGTH - 150m SW & 550m SE)

<p>Angus Council INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DEPARTMENT Engineer-Head of Roads, Angus Council</p> <p>Traffic Section County Buildings Forfar Street Forfar DD8 3WR</p> <p>Tel: 01307 461400 Fax: 01307 473388</p> <p>Path & Planes: Management Projects 2023/24 County Council www.anguscouncil.gov.uk</p>	<p>Drawing Title: APPENDIX 1</p>	<p>Status: Final</p>
	<p>Project Title: U890 BACKWATER DAM AMENDMENT TO EXISTING SPEED LIMITS</p>	<p>Floting Scale: N.T.S.</p>
<p>Drawing Size: A4</p>	<p>Drawn By: AS</p>	<p>Issue: _____</p>
<p>Date: 17/07/23</p>	<p>Checked By: _____ Date: _____</p>	<p>Approved: _____</p>
<p>Project No: 105000000</p>	<p>Drawing No: U390/BWD/01</p>	<p>Revision: -</p>
<p>Rev. _____</p>	<p>Date _____</p>	<p>Description _____</p>



Appendix 2

Equality Impact Assessment Form

Step 1

Name of Proposal (includes e. g. budget savings, committee reports, strategies, policies, procedures, service reviews, functions): **U390 at Backwater Dam – Amendments to existing speed limits**

Step 2

Is this only a **screening** Equality Impact Assessment Yes/No

(A) If Yes, please choose from the following options **all** reasons why a full EIA/FSD is not required:

(i) It does not impact on people Yes/No

(ii) It is a percentage increase in fees which has no differential impact on protected characteristics Yes/No

(iii) It is for information only Yes/No

(iv) It is reflective e.g. of budget spend over a financial year Yes/No

(v) It is technical Yes/No

If you have answered yes to any of points above, please go to **Step 16**, and sign off the Assessment.

(B) If you have answered No to the above, please indicate the following:

Is this a full Equality Impact Assessment Yes/No

Is this a Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment Yes/No

If you have answered Yes to either or both of the above, continue with Step 3.

If your proposal is a **strategy** please ensure you complete Step 13 which is the Fairer Scotland Duty Assessment.

Step 3

(i)Lead Directorate/Service: **Infrastructure & Environment – Roads & Transportation**

(ii)Are there any **relevant** statutory requirements affecting this proposal? If so, please describe.

No

(iii)What is the aim of the proposal? Please give full details.

To improve road safety on the U390 at Backwater Dam by reducing the speed limits in the vicinity of the dam.

(iv)Is it a new proposal? Yes/No Please indicate OR

Is it a review of e.g. an existing budget saving, report, strategy, policy, service review, procedure or function? Yes/No Please indicate

Step 4: Which people does your proposal involve or have consequences for?

Please indicate all which apply:

Employees Yes/No

Job Applicants Yes/No

Service users Yes/No

Members of the public Yes/No

Step 5: List the evidence/data/research that has been used in this assessment (links to data sources, information etc which you may find useful are in the Guidance). This could include:

Internal data (e.g. customer satisfaction surveys; equality monitoring data; customer complaints).

Email received from Scottish Water requesting that speed limits are reduced following completion of a structural assessment of the road bridge over the spillway at the dam.

Internal consultation (e.g. with staff, trade unions and any other services affected).

Not applicable

External data (e.g. Census, equality reports, equality evidence finder, performance reports, research, available statistics)

Structural assessment carried out by Scottish Water's structural engineers

External consultation (e.g. partner organisations, national organisations, community groups, other councils).

Not applicable

Other (general information as appropriate).

Not applicable

Step 6: Evidence Gaps.

Are there any gaps in the equality information you currently hold? Yes/No

If yes, please state what they are, and what measures you will take to obtain the evidence you need.

Step 7: Are there potential differential impacts on protected characteristic groups? Please complete for each group, including details of the potential impact on those affected. Please remember to take into account any particular impact resulting from **Covid-19**.

No

Please state if there is a potentially positive, negative, neutral or unknown impact for each group. Please state the reason(s) why.

Age

Impact

Neutral or positive impact on people of all ages, but particularly young and old being able to drive, walk and cycle in a safer road environment.

Disability

Impact

Neutral or positive impact on people of all ages, but particularly young and old being able to drive, walk and cycle in a safer road environment.

Gender reassignment

Impact

Neutral

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Impact

Neutral

Pregnancy/Maternity

Impact

Neutral or positive impact on people with this protected characteristic being able to drive, walk and cycle in a safer road environment.

Race - (includes Gypsy Travellers)

Impact

Neutral

Religion or Belief

Impact

Neutral

Sex

Impact

Neutral

Sexual orientation

Impact

Neutral

Step 8: Consultation with any of the groups potentially affected

If you have consulted with any group potentially affected, please give details of how this was done and what the results were.

Not applicable

If you have not consulted with any group potentially affected, how have you ensured that you can make an informed decision about mitigating action of any negative impact (Step 9)?

Neutral or positive impact, hence no consultation undertaken

Step 9: What mitigating steps will be taken to remove or reduce potentially negative impacts?

Not applicable

Step 10: If a potentially negative impact has been identified, please state below the justification.

Not applicable

Step 11: In what way does this proposal contribute to any or all of the public sector equality duty to: eliminate unlawful discrimination; advance equality of

opportunity; and foster good relations between people of different protected characteristics?

The proposal identifies the positive impact in being able to drive, walk and cycle in a safer road environment.

Step 12: Is there any action which could be taken to advance equalities in relation to this proposal?

No actions to be taken.

Step 16: Sign off and Authorisation. Please state name, post, and date for each:

Prepared by: **Andrea Strachan, Traffic Engineer, 26/07/2023**

Reviewed by: **Craig Hudson, Traffic & Transport Manager, 26.07.23**

Approved by: **Graeme Dailly, Director of Infrastructure and Environment, 26.07.23**

NB. There are several worked examples of separate EIA and FSD Assessments in the Guidance which may be of use to you.
