



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

**NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL**  
**ENVIRONMENT, REGENERATION AND STREETSCENE**  
**SERVICES CABINET BOARD**

**14<sup>th</sup> April 2023**

**Report of the Head of Engineering & Transport – D.W.Griffiths**

**Matter for Decision**

**Wards Affected: Rhos**

**A474 NEW ROAD, GELLINUDD (REVOCATION) AND (30MPH  
SPEED LIMIT) - ORDER 2023**

**Purpose of the Report:**

To consider the support and objection received following the advertisement of the A474 New Road, Gellinudd (Revocation) and (30mph Speed Limit) - Order 2023, as indicated in Appendix A.

**Executive Summary:**

The report outlines the proposed 30mph Speed Limit Traffic Regulation Order which was formally advertised resulting in an objection being received.

## **Background:**

The Welsh Government are proposing to implement a national roll out of a revision to the current default speed limit of 30mph.

The new default speed limit in lit areas across Wales will be 20mph not 30mph as currently. This is planned to happen in September 2023 when the new default limits become operational.

Local Authorities are able to convert back from the default of 20mph speed limit to the current 30mph speed limit on agreed strategic roads by creating a traffic regulation order.

The proposed 30mph speed limit traffic regulation order has been agreed with the Welsh Government and the local member as an exception to the general default 20mph speed limit as indicated in Appendix A.

The traffic regulation order is necessary to maintain the existing speed limit of 30mph on a section of A474 New Road, Gellinudd, Rhos within the borough, after the Welsh Government has passed legislation to implement a 20mph default speed limit in urban areas nationally throughout Wales in the interest of road safety.

The Council as Local Highway Authority considers that the road is a strategic route with higher volumes of daily traffic compared to urban residential streets and as such does not meet the criteria or the nature of a road or roads with a speed limit of 20mph.

The Council considers that the existing 30mph speed limit is an appropriate speed limit in order to maintain a reasonable traffic flow on a higher traffic volume strategic route.

## **Financial Impacts:**

The scheme is to be funded by the Welsh Government.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment:**

A first stage impact assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties (under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The first stage assessment, attached at Appendix B, has indicated that a more in-depth assessment is not required. A summary is included below: -

A full impact assessment is not required as the proposed traffic regulation order will provide a safe environment for all highway users.

### **Valleys Communities Impacts:**

There are 'No Implications' associated with this report.

### **Workforce Impacts:**

There are 'No Implications' associated with this report.

### **Legal Impacts:**

The proposal was advertised for a 21-day period between Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

### **Risk Management Impacts:**

There are no risk management impacts associated with this report.

### **Consultation:**

This item has been subject to external consultation.

A consultation exercise was undertaken for a period of 21 days between Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2023 and Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2023.

There were 30 letters and plans hand delivered to the properties on A474 New Road, Gellinudd, Rhos detailing the proposals. Following a three-week consultation exercise, 1 statement of support and 1 statement of objection have been received on the proposal.

A summary of the objection and support received are given below: -

Support: - *Any officer observations/ comments are illustrated in italics in response to the points raised.*

- a) The South Wales Police fully support this proposal.

*The South Wales Police have committed to the routine enforcement of speed limits as part of the new Welsh Government default speed limit initiative.*

Objection: - *Any officer observations/ comments are illustrated in italics in response to the points raised.*

- a) A resident objected to the length of the proposed speed limit and suggested that it be shortened. The resident feels that the suggested shortened section should be 20mph due to the very dangerous bend.
- b) A resident feels that speed of traffic already exceeds 30mph so 20mph is warranted especially at the aforementioned location on the bend.

*The road at this location is generally wide with properties set back from the carriageway including adequate parking within the curtilage. The road at this location does not give the appearance of a road that should have a speed limit of 20mph. It has been suggested by the resident that traffic is not travelling at 30mph however this not a valid reason to lower the speed*

*limit to 20mph. The police have the statutory responsibility to enforce all legal speed limits.*

*It should be noted that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council are currently converting over 92% of the available existing 30mph highway network within the borough to the default speed limit of 20mph as part of the Welsh Government Initiative.*

The local member has been consulted on the feedback received and supports that the objection is overruled with the scheme being implemented as advertised in Appendix A.

**Recommendations:**

Having had due regard to the integrated impact assessment it is recommended that the objection is overruled to the A474 New Road, Gellinudd (Revocation) and (30mph Speed Limit) - Order 2023 (as detailed in Appendix A to the circulated report) and that the scheme is implemented as advertised.

The objector will be informed of the decision accordingly.

**Reasons for Proposed Decision:**

The Order is necessary to maintain the existing speed limit of 30mph on the A474 New Road, Gellinudd, Rhos within the borough after the Welsh Government has passed legislation to implement a 20mph default speed limit in urban areas nationally throughout Wales in the interest of road safety.

## **Implementation of Decision:**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

## **Appendices:**

Appendix A – Plan – Proposed 30mph Speed Limit A474 New Road, Gellinudd, Rhos Exceptions Map

Appendix B – Integrated Impact Assessment.

## **List of Background Papers:**

None.

## **Officer Contact:**

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