

Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 01 September 2025

Question from: Margot Puddepha

Question to: Councillor Courtney, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Regeneration and Transport

QUESTION

Could the speed limit be reduced from 30mph to 20mph from the bottom of Bridge Lanes to the junction at Saville road? The current speed limit is posing particular difficulties for those with disabilities and is contributing to the already unacceptably high levels of pollution along that stretch of road.

Response

Thank you for your question.

The setting of speed limits is evidence based in line with national guidance. Speed limits should encourage self-compliance and should not be used to slow traffic down alone. Other traffic calming measures would be required to reduce a speed limit here, and these would not be appropriate because of the traffic volumes.

Based on the latest speed monitoring data and the casualty record, we do not believe there is sufficient evidence to demonstrate speed to be a safety issue on this road length, and so cannot justify a change to the speed limit.

In respect to air quality, the Council included the consideration of this within the improvements to the A646 undertaken within the recent Corridor Improvement Programme (CIP) works, with intentions to reduce the build-up of traffic, reduce congestion, reduce road casualties, and support economic growth.

An extension of the 20mph speed limit was considered as part of this scheme, but was not considered to be as effective as the other measures provided in Hebden Bridge, i.e. removing the parking bays on Market Street and replacing them with a restricted loading area and double yellow lines to significantly reducing queuing and reduce stop-start movements by vehicles, smoothing traffic flows.