

Statement of Reason

Proposed introduction of a permanent 50mph speed limit, to replace the current temporary 50mph speed limit along A473 - Pencoed.

The Proposed introduction of a new 40mph Speed Limit at Junction 35 roundabout, A473 together with a short section of 40mph speed limit on the A473 on the approach to the Junction 35 M4 Roundabout from the A473 North.

The introduction of three controlled crossing points.

A temporary 50mph speed limit was introduced to support the introduction of an Active Travel Route and it is considered appropriate to permanently introduce this measure, in part. The introduction of this amended speed limit is considered necessary to avoid danger to any persons or other traffic using the Active Travel Route and the A473 – Pencoed.

The proposed introduction of a 40mph speed limit on the gyratory system of the Junction 35 M4 Roundabout, together with a short section of 40mph speed limit on the A473 on the approach to the Junction 35 M4 Roundabout from the north is considered necessary to complement the introduction of 2 controlled crossing points on both the northbound and southbound approaches to the roundabout from Pencoed. The 2 crossings are necessary for the safety of non-motorised road users and to facilitate the introduction of the active travel route. The lower speed limit is necessary for the safety of non-motorised road users and to facilitate the introduction of an active travel route, whilst improving the overall road safety for all motorised road users.

The proposed controlled crossing point on the Unnamed Main Access Road to Pantruthyn Services Area, Pencoed, is considered necessary for the safety of non-motorised road users and to facilitate the introduction of the active travel route.

In deciding whether or not to make an Order to introduce a 50mph and 40mph speed limit, the Council is required to have regard to the matters set out in section 122 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. Section 122(1) requires the Council to exercise the functions conferred on it by the 1984 Act as (so far as practicable having regard to the matters specified in section 122(2)) to secure the expeditious, convenient, and safe movement of vehicular and other traffic (including pedestrians).

The matters to which the Council must have regard in s122 (2) are:-

1. The desirability of securing and maintaining reasonable access to premises;
2. The effect on the amenities of any locality affected and the importance of regulating and restricting the use of roads by heavy commercial vehicles so as to preserve or improve the amenities of the areas through which the roads run;
3. The national air quality strategy prepared under section 80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1995;

4. The importance of facilitating the passage of public service vehicles and of securing the safety and convenience of persons using or desiring to use such vehicles;

5. Any other matters appearing to the Council to be relevant.

After consideration of the S122 duty, it is considered that it is appropriate to introduce the 50mph and 40mph speed limits.

The proposed traffic order is shown on the attached Drawing Number EB22.12.

The scheme is being funded by the Active Travel Department.