

The Essex County Council (Various Roads, Great Dunmow, and Little Dunmow) (Combined Speed Limit) Order 202*

STATEMENT OF REASONS:

Essex's Road Safety Engineering Team has identified this junction as a collision site. Over the last 5-year period there have been seventeen injury related collisions of which fourteen of these involved right turn movements in and out of the junction.

Speed and Origin and Destination Surveys were undertaken in 2022/23 financial year to determine specific vehicle movements at the junction. Over previous years the signage has been upgraded and vegetation has been cut back to help aid visibility of the junction to try and alleviate the collision problem however collisions of the same nature are still present.

Investigation works into both a roundabout and traffic signals were considered. However, as the roundabout would require extensive land acquisition, and the Casualty Reduction budget is limited this option was ruled out.

A feasibility study was undertaken in 2023/24 financial year to determine if a signalised junction could be installed. As part of this junction becoming signalised it was recommended that the speed limit was dropped to 40mph.

During the design of the signals scheme full traffic modelling has been undertaken to ensure that the installation of the signals will not be to the detriment of free-flowing traffic conditions. The traffic signals will be installed with technology as such which can monitor traffic levels and react accordingly.

The reduction in speed limit is part of a wider scheme as mentioned where the junction will be signalised. The aim is to install both elements (the signalised junction and 40mph speed limit) in unison. As the Signalised junction design parameters have been set in accordance with a 40mph limit, for example forward visibility to signal heads and stopping sight distances to the signals have all been calculated in accordance with a design speed of 40mph.