

MESSINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Speed Indicator Display Policy

Introduction

In response to concerns received of speeding vehicles in Messingham, the Parish Council has purchased a Speed Indicator Device (SID), this has been made possible with the help of a grant from North Lincolnshire Council.

The device will enable the Parish Council to monitor the number and speed of vehicles travelling on roads at agreed locations around the parish.

It has been shown that displaying the speed of vehicles can have a positive impact on reducing excessive road speeds and improve road safety.

Definitions & Objectives

A Speed Indicator Device (SID) is a temporary sign installation, that uses radar to detect and alert road users to the speed at which they are travelling along a given stretch of the highway.

The device aims to change driver behaviour and reduce the speed of vehicles, by raising awareness of local speed limits. Slower speeds reduce the fear of accidents in the community.

The device, which is activated by an approaching vehicle, displays the speed of the vehicle along with a reminder message to either slow down, or a thank you / smiley face graphic for travelling within the speed limit.

There are currently 3 locations in Messingham that have been approved by North Lincolnshire Council for siting the SID, these are Brigg Road (both directions) and Scotter Road A159 on entry to the village.

Legal Issues

Under Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.s.72, councils have the power to provide traffic signs and other notices.

There are no legislative powers for Parish Councils under the Highways Act to erect Speed Indicator Devices on the highway. To facilitate the installation of these signs the Local Highway Authority must consent to their use on the highway at sites approved by the Authority, and is subject to the Parish Council entering into a licence agreement.

Accountability & Responsibilities

Messingham Parish Council will comply with the policy of North Lincolnshire Council for the use of vehicle activated speed signs on the highway and meet the criteria for the adoption of the posts to mount the device.

To comply, the Parish Council agrees to:

- ensure the relevant licence and permissions are obtained before installation of the SID.
- consult with occupants of any residence/premises in the vicinity of the proposed SID to ensure there will be no objections to installation.
- be responsible for requesting the trimming/removal of any privately owned foliage highlighted by NLC that will potentially obscure the proposed device and will update NLC with the outcome of any consultations.
- inform NLC of the make and model of the SID prior to purchase, to ensure that the device is suitable for installation on NLC highways.

- settle any invoice raised by NLC in payment of works to install the post and or SID.
- install the SID with a headroom of 2300mm where the SID is erected above a footway or with 2100mm as an absolute minimum. A clearance of at least 2300mm to be maintained over a cycle track or shared cycle / pedestrian facility.
- have adequate public liability insurance and shall indemnify NLC against any claims, costs and proceedings, arising, as a result of the erection, retention and maintenance of the SID and post.
- submit to NLC with the application, evidence of public liability insurance cover for the license period of up to £5m for any one incident.
- provide NLC with appropriate contact details of the person responsible for the siting and operation of the SID on the highway, in case of emergencies and complaints.
- be responsible for resolving/acting upon complaints regarding the siting of the SID.
- inform NLC if a post is no longer in use and pay for the decommissioning and removal of the post.
- not affix the SID to a street lighting column or other highway features without the written consent of NLC highways.
- arrange for and meet the cost of any Traffic Management measures considered necessary by the Highway authority during the erection or removal of the SID.
- erect, maintain and remove the SID by a competent person.
- not impede the progress of traffic and pedestrians during the erection or removal of the SID.
- not obscure traffic signs, street lights, CCTV cameras or signals or restrict the visibility of motorists by the SID.
- give consideration to visually impaired, disabled and persons with prams and wheelchairs, during the erection and removal of the SID.
- not use the post(s) in conjunction with any device to contravene any laws or Highway Code guidance.
- maintain the post in a clean condition and in a good state of repair to the satisfaction of NLC.
- be responsible for any remedial work required to comply with statutory Highways requirements at the request of NLC.
- remove or relocate the post within one month of notification by NLC and make good to the satisfaction of NLC, any damage to the roads, footways, mains, drains, sewers, pipes, wires and cables thereunder incident to the removal.

Display

The message displayed on the SID can include a smiley / sad face, vehicle speed or other appropriate design / road safety message such as 'slow down'. If the message includes the vehicle speed, then the maximum speed the sign displays must be agreed with NLC.

There will be an upper threshold limit for SIDs to display a reading. This is to minimise the chance that a minority of individuals may see the device as a 'target' to see how fast they can travel through a given area.

The threshold will be set in accordance with the prevailing speed limit in force.

Studies have shown that SIDs are most effective at reducing speeds when used for short periods of time.

The SID will be erected at any one site for a period of no more than 12 weeks on a rota.

Identification of sites

The Parish Council will consider requests from residents to provide the SID at areas of speeding concern.

Sites for speed monitoring will be determined and operated dependent upon one or more of the location being within a 30mph speed limit

- the criteria of NLC for a SID are met
- permission being granted by NLC for monitoring by the Parish Council
- a history of injury or collisions at the site
- a known speeding problem is recorded
- public concern over vehicle speeds exists

Risk Management

The Parish Council will conduct a risk assessment to identify the potential hazards and those who may be harmed during the processes relating to the installation, removal, operation and maintenance of the SID. The risks will be evaluated and control measures put in place to mitigate the risks identified.

Data

The SID, owned by the Parish Council, will collect data on vehicle count, time, date and speed of passing vehicles, it does not record individual vehicle registration details.

The SID's used under this policy are for information only and any data collected through their operation will not be used within the NLC speed management strategy for enforcement or other measures, this will be assessed through the existing monitoring programme carried out by NLC.

Summary

This document refers to and exists in conjunction with;

- NLC policy for the use of activated speed signs on the highway
- NLC disclaimer for adoption of posts to mount a SID
- Parish Council adopted Risk Assessment

Date Policy Adopted	14 October 2024	Minute reference	Min. 1832 123 e)i)
Date of Last Review	11 May 2026	Minute reference	Min. 1947 11s)
Date of Next Review	May 2027		