

Transportation

7ACA
17/03
ITEMS
224.

22 September 2000

Dear Sir/Madam,

East Bawtry Road (EBR) - proposed reduction in speed limit

LPI	2943
ATTN.	

I refer to a recent article in the Rotherham Advertiser seeking local opinion on the above. I am, and have been for many years a frequent user of that stretch of road, as a past commuter and now as a more frequent motorist and feel well equipped to provide such.

For as long as I can remember, this part of the road, from Worrygoose Island (WGI) to past Whiston Cross Roads (WXR), has had a 50 mph speed limit, governed until recently by a speed camera at the brow of the descent down to WXR, at a point where Lease Gate Road (LGR) intersects with the dual-carriageway.

I had previously written to the Council suggesting the various cut-throughs the dual carriage way be disbanded to route all ex-Sheffield (eastbound) traffic to WGI especially at peak flow times and then back on the westbound service road, only to be advised that there was no MI (i.e. sufficient accidents) to support such a proposal.

I am a little wary as to why it is now proposed to reduce the hitherto 50 mph limit to 40 mph on what is a major arterial road for Rotherham, especially as in the course of the extensive West Bawtry Road (WBR) roadworks there have been elongated sliproads inserted to turn from the dual carriageway eastbound into LGR and westbound to the Grange estate, with a controlled pedestrian crossing sited where the speed camera was until recently. Such works can only lessen the possibility of 'crossing' accidents (of which there were not apparently sufficient to justify change previously).

Not only has this section of road got service roads parallel to most of its length, but also a wide central grass reservation. To reduce the speed limit on it to 40 mph would equate it to that stretch of EBR from the Brecks island to WGI which has **no** service roads, **nor** a central reservation of any great width. There is no equation in terms of driving between the two.

I would implore you therefore, not to accept reducing the speed limit from its present one.

If however, it is decided to proceed as proposed, I do trust that, and if the speed camera is to be reinstated, there will be sufficient and adequate notice for unwary motorists who, in the past knowledge of it having been a 50 mph limit, find it is now 40 mph and/or a period of grace allowed to appreciate the new restrictions.

Yours faithfully,

P. S. For

Transportation Unit, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council,
Bailey House, Rawmarsh Road, Rotherham S60 1TD