

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	Petitions and Community Empowerment Review Committee
<b>MEETING DATE:</b>	9 October 2025
<b>BY:</b>	Executive Director for Council Resources
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	Petition PET0325 – Calling on East Lothian Council to agree to implement a 20mph speed limit for Ravensheugh Road, Levenhall, Musselburgh, in order to make it a safer place to live
<b>REPORT STATUS:</b>	Public

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## 1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To present petition PET0325 to the Petitions and Community Empowerment Review Committee for consideration. The petition is entitled, '20mph Speed Limit for Ravensheugh Road'.

1.2 The petition text reads:

We the undersigned call on East Lothian Council to agree to implement a 20mph speed limit for Ravensheugh Road, Levenhall, Musselburgh, in order to make this a safe place to live. [This would:]

- [be] safer for the pedestrian;
- reduce the speed of traffic;
- facilitate access to local shop by foot;
- facilitate and encourage use of local transport;
- [be] safer for cyclists; and
- reduce pollution.

We do not think that the decision by East Lothian Council is fair when we compare Ravensheugh Road with other areas where a 20mph speed limit has been implemented. We do not understand the rationale for this decision. We believe that Ravensheugh Road meets the majority of the criteria for a 20mph speed limit as set out in the report by Transport Scotland on 20mph implementation:

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/the-implementation-guide-for-20-mph-speed-limits-in-scotland/the-road-assessment-criteria/>.

We hold regular meetings to consult with residents of Levenhall area and

a request for a 20mph speed limit is consistently raised at these meetings. Residents do not understand why this is not possible. Residents want this speed limit to reduce speed so that it is easier to cross the road to access bus stops, the local shop, and local public house, but more generally we know that having a 20mph [speed limit] leads to reduced speed and a safer place to live.

## **2 RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are recommended to:

- 2.1 Consider the petition and take action as required.

## **3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 A petition was submitted on 9 September 2025 by John O'Donnell, principal petitioner, and was deemed to be competent.
- 3.2 Further details of the petition are contained within the petition form at Appendix 1.

### **Signatories**

- 3.3 There are 55 signatories to this petition, all of whom had an East Lothian address. The vast majority were residents of Ravensheugh Road.
- 3.5 The petition can be viewed by contacting the clerk to the Petitions and Community Empowerment Review Committee.

## **4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

- 4.1 There are no immediate policy implications arising from this report. Depending on the action required and agreed by the Committee, there may be policy implications relating to particular issues arising from competent petitions. These will be subject to a separate report to the relevant committee, as required.

## **5 RESOURCE AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Finance: dependent on the action agreed by the Committee.
- 5.2 Human Resources: dependent on the action agreed by the Committee.
- 5.3 Other (e.g. Legal/IT): dependent on the action agreed by the Committee.
- 5.4 Risk: dependent on the action agreed by the Committee.

## 6 INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

### 6.1 **Select the statement that is appropriate to your report by placing an 'X' in the relevant box.**

An Integrated Impact Assessment screening process has been undertaken and the subject of this report does not affect the wellbeing of the community or have a significant impact on: equality and human rights; tackling socio-economic disadvantages and poverty; climate change, the environment and sustainability; the Council's role as a corporate parent; or the storage/collection of personal data.

**or**

The subject of this report has been through the Integrated Impact Assessment process and impacts have been identified as follows:

Subject	Impacts identified (Yes, No or N/A)
Equality and human rights	
Socio-economic disadvantage/poverty	
Climate change, the environment and sustainability	
Corporate parenting and care-experienced young people	
Storage/collection of personal data	
Other	

*[Enter information on impacts that have been identified]*

The Integrated Impact Assessment relating to this report has been published and can be accessed via the Council's website:

[https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210602/equality\\_and\\_diversity/12014/integrated\\_impact\\_assessments](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210602/equality_and_diversity/12014/integrated_impact_assessments)

## 7 APPENDICES

- 7.1 Appendix 1: Petition form
- 7.2 Appendix 2: Officer's response to petition and example correspondence with petitioner.

## 8 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None.

## 9 AUTHOR AND APPROVAL DETAILS

### Report Author(s)

<b>Name</b>	Becky Crichton
<b>Designation</b>	Committees Officer/Clerk to the Petitions and Community Empowerment Review Committee
<b>Tel/Email</b>	<a href="mailto:rcrichton@eastlothian.gov.uk">rcrichton@eastlothian.gov.uk</a>
<b>Date</b>	25 September 2025

### Head of Service Approval

<b>Name</b>	Hayley Barnett
<b>Designation</b>	Head of Corporate Support
<b>Confirmation that IIA and other relevant checks (e.g. finance/legal) have been completed</b>	Yes
<b>Approval Date</b>	2 October 2025



**East Lothian  
Council**

**PETITION TO EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL**

<b>Name of Principal Petitioner (and organisation if applicable)</b> (Block Caps)	JOHN O'DONNELL
<b>Address of Principal Petitioner (inc Postcode)</b> (Block Caps)	[REDACTED]
<b>Contact telephone number of Principal Petitioner</b>	[REDACTED]
<b>Title of Petition</b>	20 MPH SPEED LIMIT FOR RAVENSHEUGH ROAD
<b>Petition text. We the undersigned call on East Lothian Council to..</b>	PLEASE SEE ATTACHED
<b>What action have you taken and who have you contacted before submitting this petition and what was the result of this?</b>	PLEASE SEE ATTACHED
<b>Please provide more information about your petition</b>	PLEASE SEE ATTACHED [REDACTED]
<b>Signature of Principal Petitioner</b>	[REDACTED]

Your details will only be held by East Lothian Council and will not be used for any purposes other than in relation to this petition.

For Office Use:	
Date Received:	9 September 2025
Receiving Officer:	B Crichton
Petition Reference:	PET0325

All Petitions should be forwarded to: Clerk to the Petitions Committee, Legal & Democratic Services, East Lothian Council, John Muir House, Haddington EH31 3HA or handed in at Main Reception, John Muir House, Haddington

PETITION TEXT

TITLE OF PETITION

20 mph speed limit for Ravensheugh Road, Levenhall, Musselburgh

**Petition text. We the undersigned call on East Lothian Council to..**

We are asking East Lothian Council to agree to implement a 20 mph speed limit for Ravensheugh Road, Levenhall, Musselburgh in order to make this a safer place to live:

- safer for the pedestrian
- reduce the speed of traffic
- facilitate access to local shop by foot
- facilitate and encourage use of local transport
- safer for cyclists
- reduce pollution

**What action have you taken and who have you contacted before submitting this petition and what was the result of this?**

We have asked for this previously and this request has been refused. We submitted a report in March 2020 pre Covid requesting this change. We have had email contact with Council Officers and local elected Members. We have been given various reasons about why this implementation cannot be agreed, none of which we as residents of Levenhall agree with. We regularly raise speed as an issue at the monthly CAPP meetings. We feel that we as a community are not being listened to and see no option but to raise this petition.

**Please provide more information about your petition**

We do not think that decision by East Lothian Council is fair when we compare Ravensheugh Road with other areas where a 20mph speed limit has been implemented. We do not understand the rationale for this decision. We believe that Ravensheugh Road meets the majority of the criteria for 20 mph speed limit as set out in the report by Transport Scotland on 20 mph implementation. <https://www.transport.gov.scot/publication/the-implementation-guide-for-20-mph-speed-limits-in-scotland/the-road-assessment-criteria/>

We hold regular meetings to consult with residents of Levenhall area and a request for a 20mph speed limit is consistently raised at these meetings. Residents do not understand why this is not

possible. Residents want this speed limit to reduce speed so that it is easier to cross the road to access bus stops, local shop and local public house, but more generally we know that having a 20 mph leads to reduced speed and a safer place to live.

**From:** [Stubbs, Alan](#)  
**To:** [Cmtte Petitions](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Petitions &CERC Committee papers  
**Date:** 23 September 2025 16:10:38

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Becky

There is a lot of background and lots of correspondence since 2020 on them requesting we consider a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph. Attached is a sample of our responses to Levenhall TRA.

In summary we have considered there requests and responded setting out the reasons why would we not be recommending a speed reduction to 20mph.

I would note they also made a formal complaint in 2022 regarding our decision not to implement a 20mph speed limit for Ravensheugh Road. This followed ELC feedback process and following this they escalated to the ombudsman and the SPSO were satisfied with how we dealt with the complaint and took no further action.

We have a speed limit policy which was approved by our members . The location does not meet our criteria set out in our approved policy for a 20mph speed limit reduction at this time and we have set out the reason for this within our responses. We have acknowledged their disappointment that we did not recommend that the speed limit on Ravensheugh Road was reduced to 20mph.

We have always said that if things change, we can review our position.

Regards

Alan

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From: [Stubbs, Alan](mailto:Stubbs, Alan)  
To: [leventhalltra@gmail.com](mailto:leventhalltra@gmail.com)  
Cc: [Cassini, Cher](mailto:Cassini, Cher); [Bennett, Ruaridh](mailto:Bennett, Ruaridh); [McIntosh, Shona](mailto:McIntosh, Shona); [Forrest, Andrew](mailto:Forrest, Andrew); [Depute Provost](mailto:Depute Provost); [Lennock, Ian](mailto:Lennock, Ian)  
Subject: RE: Ravensheugh Road 20 mph speed limit  
Date: 28 June 2022 14:09:00

Dear Christine

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my email dated 21st of June 2022. As outlined following the initial submission of your letter in March 2020, officers from my team met with you and explained the process for setting speed limits under the Spaces for People (SFP) programme which were in place at that time as part of East Lothian Council's response to the Covid pandemic. We did not ignore you and this direct engagement was arranged to discuss your formal letter which included a number of matters not just your request to reduce Ravensheugh Road 20 mph. I have also been advised that officers spoke with you directly after this meeting by telephone on a number of occasions. I understand you are disappointed that we have not recommended that this section of the B1348 is reduced to 20mph, but I can assure you that we have listened and considered your request. I hope our dialogue and the continued engagement with myself and my officers as well as other services within East Lothian Council demonstrates this.

I would welcome your involvement in agreeing the location of the traffic survey. Ian Lennock and his team will pick this up directly with you. I would note the traffic surveys are undertaken by an external contractor and while we do specify a location the final positioning of the survey strips is at their discretion, but generally they do locate within close proximity to where we request.

I acknowledge and confirm that the Levenhall community has set speeding as one of its top three priorities and this view has been confirmed through active consultation with residents over the past two weeks. I would note we are progressing making the residential streets off Ravensheugh Road 20mph.

The process that we follow in reducing a speed limit is that we first take a report to East Lothian Councils Cabinet with recommendations. If our elected members approve the recommendations this then gives officers the mandate to start the statutory process to make the legal order, which includes consultation. As outlined in my

email to you on the 21<sup>st</sup> of June 2022 a number of interventions were introduced during COVID under the SFP programme and a key measure was the introduction of temporary 20mph speed limits. We engaged with all our communities regarding the SFP interventions and we sought to keep the public involved via press releases, social media and on a dedicated section of our website ([www.eastlothian.gov.uk/spaces-for-people](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/spaces-for-people)). We also continued to keep our elected members, Community Councils and Area Partnerships updated. In August 2020 we created a second online portal to present the plans and obtain on-going feedback from the public. From October-December 2021 we ran an online consultation seeking feedback on the future of specific projects including the lowering speed limits. We also considered additional locations including Ravensheugh Road. As part of this process we also reviewed our speed limit policy. Two reports were taken to Cabinet in March 2022, one

seeking approval of our recommendations to make a number of interventions introduced under the SFP programme permanent and the 2<sup>nd</sup> report recommended the approval of the revised speed limit policy. Both reports were approved by our elected members in March 2022. As I understand it there is no appeal to this process. However, if you feel you do need to make a formal complaint then you can contact East Lothian Council feedback team. Further information on the complaints procedure can be found on our website using the following link [https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210560/your\\_council/12166/comments\\_complaints\\_and\\_compliments/2](https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/info/210560/your_council/12166/comments_complaints_and_compliments/2).

Thank you again for taking the time to contact East Lothian Council.

Kind regards

Alan Stubbs - Service Manager- Roads

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From: Levenhall TRA <[leventhalltra@gmail.com](mailto:leventhalltra@gmail.com)>

Sent: 27 June 2022 17:04

To: Stubbs, Alan <[astubbs@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:astubbs@eastlothian.gov.uk)>  
Cc: Cassini, Cher <[ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Bennett, Ruaridh <[rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; McIntosh, Shona <[smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Forrest, Andrew <[aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Lennock, Ian <[ilennock@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ilennock@eastlothian.gov.uk)>  
Subject: Ravensheugh Road 20 mph speed limit

Dear Mr Stubbs

We refer to your email response dated 21/06/22 at 13.59.

In our view you have not answered the questions that were raised in our email, in particular why the Levenhall community request for a 20mph speed limit at Ravensheugh Road that was submitted in writing in March 2020 went unanswered/unresponded to and ignored throughout the process of applying a 20 mph speed limit across the Council area, and secondly what is the appeals process. This request was made as speed has been set as one of the three priorities for Levenhall TRA. This failure to respond leaves us as a community feeling that we are not listened to by the Council.

You again refer to consultation with the Community Council & the Area Partnership, but when we made enquiries with them, they stated that they were never consulted about a 20 mph speed limit in Ravensheugh Road.

The perception that we have is that there is an unfairness/inconsistency, in that it would appear that those roads that were allocated a 20 mph speed limit will not be subject to the rigorous testing that will be applied to any new road request. This simply does not make sense. Secondly, as already stated in our previous email, in regards to apparent inconsistency, why was the 20 mph speed limit applied to such areas as Inveresk where houses are set back from the road, similarly Pinkie Road but not Ravensheugh Road.

We welcome that you intend to undertake survey work in regards to the speed on this road but would ask that we are actively involved in agreeing the location of the equipment to be used.

I refer also to your email to Councillor McIntosh, of the same date.

Our initial comments on this are that the fact that "this road is wide with good visibility" is the concern, in that after exiting the roundabout vehicles gather up speed along that road, sometimes speed is applied even before entering that roundabout in anticipation of the clear exit, secondly there are many examples of yo-yo speeds across East Lothian, and lastly there are more than 20 houses fronting onto Ravensheugh Road.

We would repeat again that the Levenhall community has set speeding as one of its top three priorities and this view has been confirmed through active consultation with residents over the past two weeks.

As a community we are disappointed in the response from Council as it leaves us feeling that we are not being listened to and as a result it is our intention to either appeal (if there is a process?) or to formally complain as we can see no other way of resolving this matter.

Kind regards

Christine Schaffer & John O'Donnell

From: Stubbs, Alan

Sent: 21 June 2022 13:59

To: 'Levenhall TRA' <[leventhalltra@gmail.com](mailto:leventhalltra@gmail.com)>

Cc: Forrest, Andrew <[aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Cassini, Cher <[ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Bennett, Ruaridh <[rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; McIntosh, Shona <[smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Lennock, Ian <[ilennock@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ilennock@eastlothian.gov.uk)>

Subject: RE: Ravensheugh Road - 20 mph speed limit

Dear Christine

Thank you for contacting East Lothian Council regarding the speed limit on Ravensheugh Road. It is recognised that the speed of vehicles is an important issue for communities that often generates intense local concern and debate, partly because the perception of what is an appropriate safe speed often differs greatly between drivers, pedestrians and pedal cyclists, many of whom live and work in the community. It is important, therefore, that East Lothian Council clearly sets out its policy on how it will determine appropriate speed limits and ensure consistency of application in line with current Government recommendations.

Effective speed management on the road network involves many components designed to encourage, help and require road users to adopt appropriate and safe speeds. Speed limits are a key source of information to road users and play a fundamental role in indicating the nature of and risks posed by a road to both motorised and non-motorised road users. Therefore, speed limits should be evidence-led, self-explaining and seek to reinforce peoples' assessment of what is a safe speed at which to travel. They should also encourage self-compliance and not be seen by drivers as being a target speed at which to drive in all circumstances.

It should be noted that some driver behaviour falls out with the enforcement powers of East Lothian Council which are largely restricted to Decriminalised Parking Enforcement. Speeding, unlawful use of mobile phones and general careless / dangerous driving can only be enforced by Police Scotland and can be reported to them via the non-emergency 101 line or via their web form which can be found at Contact Us form | Police Scotland

Following your initial submission in March 2020, officers from my team met with you and explained the process for setting speed limits under the Spaces for People measures which were in place at that time as part of East Lothian Council's response to the Covid pandemic. Following the introduction of these measures extensive consultation was carried out by an independent consultant and the council's Speed Limit Policy was reviewed and approved by East Lothian Council cabinet on 8th March 2022. The Speed Policy can be found on the council's website at East Lothian Council Speed Limit Policy 2022 | East Lothian Council. At that time it was decided that the 30 mph speed limit on Ravensheugh Road was in line with the policy, although 20mph limits were proposed for the side streets.

Following cabinet approval of Speed Limit Policy on 8th March 2022 the council is now progressing the legislative process to make permanent the 20mph speed limits introduced under emergency legislation. This is a resource intensive statutory process involving consultation and the consideration of objections and must be completed before the expiry of the emergency legislation in September 2022. As set out in the cabinet reports, once the order is made there will then be a monitoring period of no less than 12 months. Thereafter, where communities make representations as set out in the policy, an assessment and evidence gathering process will be undertaken to inform a view on additional measures. Until this has taken place suggested changes to speed limits will be deferred unless there are exceptional and compelling reasons for considering them at an earlier stage.

As part of the review of the spaces for people programme we undertook extensive engagement with our Community Councils, Area Partnership and elected members. We sought to keep the public involved via press releases, social media and on a dedicated section of our website ([www.eastlothian.gov.uk/spaces-for-people](http://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/spaces-for-people)) to explain the ongoing works. In August 2020 we created a second online portal to present the plans and obtain on-going feedback from the public. From October-December 2021 we ran an online consultation seeking feedback on the future of specific projects, and the lower speed limits in particular. The Council's Policy, Improvements and Partnerships team commissions regular surveys of local residents to measure general trends. This work is carried out by an independent market research organisation who post paper-based questionnaires to a representative sample of local people. Recipients had the option of responding online (using a unique code to avoid double-counting) or returning the paper questionnaire. In the autumn of 2021, we added in eight questions to match those asked online around the lower speed limits. Over 3,000 responses were received and the data has been weighted to ensure that the results are representative of the demographics of East Lothian. Further information can be found online within the updated spaces for people interventions. <https://www.eastlothian.gov.uk/meetings/meeting/16784/cabinet>.

I note your views and concerns about Ravensheugh Road and, during this monitoring period, I will arrange for traffic counts to be carried out to provide data on actual vehicle speeds which can then inform decisions about any future changes.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact East Lothian Council.

Kind regards

Alan Stubbs  
Service Manager- Roads

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From: Levenhall TRA <[leventhalltra@gmail.com](mailto:leventhalltra@gmail.com)>

Sent: 19 June 2022 10:09

To: Stubbs, Alan <[astubbs@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:astubbs@eastlothian.gov.uk)>

Cc: Forrest, Andrew <[aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Cassini, Cher <[ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; Bennett, Ruaridh <[rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk)>; McIntosh, Shona <[smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk](mailto:smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk)>

Subject: Ravensheugh Road - 20 mph speed limit

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Dear Mr Stubbs

In the context of the review that has been recently undertaken by ELC of the 20 mph speed limit areas within East Lothian, we are disappointed not to have received a formal response to our written request, that was submitted in March 2020, that Ravensheugh Road should have a 20 mph speed limit and that therefore the review appears to have taken no account of this request. This ignoring of this request is difficult to understand, in that it was a clear message from two previous consultations that were undertaken with residents within the Levenhall TRA community.

Currently we are actively consulting residents of our TRA community about access routes to the race course and consistently we are receiving feedback on two matters, one the speed of cars along Ravensheugh Road and secondly the concern about the HGV traffic currently accessing the lagoon area and making houses that are close to the main road feel like their house is shaking and causing discomfort from the dust that is thrown up in their wake. The only conclusion from this consultation exercise is that speeding remains a priority within our community.

Ravensheugh Road is a residential area with houses facing onto the main road, example widths of the pavements are 1m and 1.5m. This decision makes no sense when we compare this road with other areas in Musselburgh where a 20 mph speed limit has been enacted e.g. Inveresk and Pinkie Road, where houses are set further back from the road. We had understood that the non-application of the 20 mph speed limit at Ravensheugh Road was an oversight at a time when the Council had limited time to put their spaces for people strategy into action and we were therefore hopeful of a positive outcome from the review.

We are requesting written feedback to explain why the request for Ravensheugh Road to be a 20 mph speed limit was refused. We made this request in writing and it is only fitting that we, in turn, receive a response in writing, not least as we need to accurately explain this decision to those residents who wanted this set as a priority action point. We will use this feedback to inform the community so that we can then consider what further actions we might take - that is an appeal (if there is an appeal process?) or using the formal complaint process, our complaint will focus on the Council's apparent inability/failure to listen to the wishes of the community and the lack of communication.

We look forward to hearing from you within 10 days of receipt of this email.

Kind regards,

Christine Schaffer & John O'Donnell on behalf of Levenhall TRA

**From:** [Stubbs, Alan](#)  
**To:** [levenhalltra@gmail.com](mailto:levenhalltra@gmail.com)  
**Cc:** [Reid, Tom](#); [Forrest, Andrew - Depute Provost](#); [Cassini, Cher](#); [McIntosh, Shona](#); [Bennett, Ruaridh](#); [Lennox, Ian](#)  
**Subject:** 20mph speed limit Ravensheugh Road  
**Date:** 23 March 2023 10:19:00

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Dear Ms Shaffer

Thank you for taking the time to contact me regarding this matter. The review of temporary 20mph speed limits concluded in March 2022 and it was agreed by Cabinet to make permanent a number of locations as per the attached report as outlined in (Appendix 1 – sub-appendix F, as published in the Members’ Library Service (Ref 30/22 to 36/22) . The statutory process commenced after this and the legal order was made in August 2022.

As you know we have looked at speed reduction within Ravensheugh Road previously and our recommendation was not to lower the speed limit. We have set out the reasons and these have not changed. In summary in our stage 2 response to your complaint to ELC feedback team the Council explained the process that we followed in determining whether to reduce a speed limit. We provided details of how we introduced temporary 20mph speed limits during COVID and, following consultation, how we decided to make a number of the speed limit changes permanent. In particular, we explained that, as part of this process, we considered additional locations, including Ravensheugh Road. In regards to the section of the B1348 at Ravensheugh Road, one of the reasons we did not recommend a 20mph was to avoid introducing too many changes in speed limits over a route which could be confusing to drivers.

The approach from the east (Prestonpans) to Ravensheugh Road goes from 40mph down to 30mph. At the Levenhall roundabout the speed limit to Wallyford Toll is 40mph and the speed limit along the frontage of the race course to Pinkie Pillars is 30mph. The geometry/ layout and character of the road was also a factor. Ravensheugh Road is a very wide road, at its narrowest approx. 9 metres and it goes up to 12 metre widths with very good forward visibility. It also doesn’t have loads of frontages and it doesn’t have an accident history of speed related accidents. A traffic survey at Ravensheugh shows no speeding issue, You will always have some that will speed but in general there is good compliance.

We have acknowledged your disappointment that we did not recommend that the speed limit on Ravensheugh Road was reduced to 20mph at this time. We know you were disappointed at this and you made a formal complaint which has followed ELC feedback process. We are aware that you wrote to the SPSO who advised that your complaint is not one they will take forward.

We advised, that we had considered your request and would continue to work with Police Scotland and review matters again if the situation changes. I’m not aware of any significant changes that would merit a review or change of position and our recommendation is for the speed limit to remain and not to lower to 20mph.

The subject matter that you raise on behalf of LTRA is an important one for East Lothian Council and our communities that often generates local concern and debate. The request to reduce the speed limit has been acknowledged and considered. It does not comply with our speed limit policy and it is important to appreciate

that a balance has to be struck between the needs of the community and the needs of others including other residences, businesses and motorists, particularly on those roads that are the main traffic routes in the County.

As outlined we will continue to work with Police Scotland and review matters again if the situation changes.

Kind Regards

Alan Stubbs

Service Manager- Roads

East Lothian Council

-----Original Message-----

From: Levenhall TRA <levenhalltra@gmail.com>

Sent: 19 March 2023 18:31

To: Stubbs, Alan <astubbs@eastlothian.gov.uk>

Cc: Reid, Tom <treid@eastlothian.gov.uk>; Forrest, Andrew - Depute Provost <aforrest2@eastlothian.gov.uk>; Cassini, Cher <ccassini@eastlothian.gov.uk>; McIntosh, Shona <smcintosh1@eastlothian.gov.uk>; Bennett, Ruaridh <rbennett@eastlothian.gov.uk>

Subject: 20mph speed limit Ravensheugh Road

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Dear Mr Stubbs

From our previous correspondence on this subject, we are emailing to ask you the time scales and the process for the review of the implementation of the 20 mph speed limit across East Lothian.

As you are aware from our previous correspondence the community of Levenhall TRA is totally in support of a 20 mph speed limit along Ravensheugh Road. We cannot accept the various reasons that you have provided for the decision not to implement this speed limit previously, especially when we compare Ravensheugh Road with other roads where a 20 mph speed limit has been applied.

We look forward to hearing from you about what we can now do to request a 20 mph speed limit, how we should go about this, and the time scales for this process.

Regards,

Christine Schaffer & John O'Donnell

**From:** [Stubbs, Alan](#)  
**To:** ["colin.beattie.msp@parliament.scot"](mailto:colin.beattie.msp@parliament.scot)  
**Cc:** [Chief Executive](#)  
**Subject:** RE: MSP Correspondence - LTRA - Speeding on Ravensheugh Road, Musselburgh(Case Ref: CB9020)  
**Date:** 19 April 2024 15:18:00

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Dear Colin

Thank you for taking the time to contact the Chief Executive, Monica Patterson regarding this matter. She has asked me to respond on her behalf.

The speed of vehicles is an important issue for communities that often generates intense local concern and debate, partly because the perception of what is an appropriate safe speed often differs greatly between, for example, drivers, pedestrians and pedal cyclists, many of whom live and work in the community. It is important, therefore, that ELC clearly sets out its policy on how it will determine 'appropriate' speed limits and ensure consistency of application, in line with current Government recommendations and its own approved Policy.

In regard to Ravensheugh Road I am aware that following requests for speed reduction by Levenhall TRA, officers have considered this, and our recommendation was not to lower the speed limit to 20mph. I understand that there has been significant engagement with Levenhall TRA and elected members and this has been formally communicated. Officers have considered the requests and set out the reasons why we did not recommend the speed reduction. This in part was to avoid introducing too many changes in speed limits over a route which could be confusing to drivers. The approach from the east (Prestonpans) to Ravensheugh Road goes from 40mph down to 30mph. At the Levenhall roundabout the speed limit to Wallyford Toll is 40mph and the speed limit along the frontage of the racecourse to Pinkie Pillars is 30mph. The geometry/layout and character of the road was also a factor. Ravensheugh Road is a very wide road, at its narrowest approx. 9 metres and it goes up to 12 metre widths with very good forward visibility. It also doesn't have a significant number of direct frontages and it doesn't have an accident history of speed related accidents. We undertook traffic surveys, and the data showed no speeding issue. While you will always have some that will speed in general there is good compliance.

We advised that we continue to work with Police Scotland and would review matters again if the situation changes. In way of an update, Sustrans are funding a feasibility study looking at improving active travel links between Levenhall and Prestonpans. AECOM have been appointed to undertake this work and proposals will be presented to communities and local councillors for review and feedback later in 2024. We are working closely with colleagues in the Landscape and Countryside, and Economic Development Teams to ensure that the proposals enhance biodiversity in the area and improve access to Levenhall Links and Prestongrange Heritage Park. The study will also look at potential options for traffic layouts/calming within the settlements of Levenhall and the West of Prestonpans and this may include a review of speed limits. However, this is at a very early stage and our current position remains that we do not recommend the lowering of the speed limit to 20mph at Ravensheugh Road at this time.

We appreciate and understand that Levenhall TRA are disappointed that we did not recommend a reduced speed to 20mph. However, I am satisfied that we have undertaken meaningful engagement. We have listened and considered the requests and communicated this to the Levenhall TRA directly via Officers and senior management within East Lothian Council and also indirectly via local Councillors. I am happy to share the detail with you if you require this.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact us.

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Kind Regards

Alan Stubbs

Service Manager- Roads - East Lothian Council