

Suffolk County Council meeting Thursday 2 December 2021, vote taken on Motion 2

Motion 2 – Proposed by Councillor Caroline Page and seconded by Councillor Paul West.

Motion Text: The proposed amendments to the Highway Code, laid in Parliament on 1 December 2021, introduce a “hierarchy of road users”: putting road users most at risk in the event of a collision at the top of the hierarchy. The wording states that road users most likely to be injured in the event of a collision are pedestrians, in particular children, older adults and disabled people, followed by cyclists, horse riders and motorcyclists.

The proposed new Rule 261 makes it clear that you must not exceed a speed limit within a circle on a red sign (including 20mph limits). The Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 already allows Local Authorities to set speed limits subject to certain criteria.

In light of the above, this Council:

1. Believes that enforcement of all speed limits by the Police has a major role to play in protecting vulnerable road users;
2. Believes that introducing any lower speed limits should be as a result of the support from the local community including the local County Councillor(s);
3. Will write to the PCC and ask for confirmation that the Suffolk Constabulary is prepared to increase and prioritise enforcement activities across all speed limits (including 20mph) where there is clear evidence of significant non-compliance or an injury collision history, and ensure that all officers act in line with this policy.

Members present agreed the motion by general assent.