



# SH1 TEMPLETON TO DAWSON ROAD SPEED REVIEW

Summary of the speed review consultation

WAKA KOTAHI NZ TRANSPORT AGENCY

FEBRUARY 2020

# 1. BACKGROUND

Between Wednesday 16 December 2020 to Monday 1 February 2021, Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency consulted with the local community and road user groups on the safe and appropriate speed limit for State Highway 1 Templeton to Dawsons Road in the Canterbury Region.

Waka Kotahi reviewed the speed limit on this route;

- due to significant growth in the region
- to future-proof the road for increased traffic demand
- to create a logical speed transition as drivers exit and enter the new roundabout and motorway.

An 80km/h speed limit would help regulate the speed of traffic travelling off the new motorway into Templeton township and create consistency with speed limits on side roads

# 2. CONSULTATION PROCESS

Because this speed review is so closely aligned with the construction of the Christchurch Southern Motorway Stage 2 Project and temporary speed limits have been in place for at least the past two years, a brief engagement was undertaken with local stakeholders. We contacted NZ Police, Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council, the Automobile Association (AA) and the Road Transport Forum (RTF) to signal our intention to review the speed limit and to find out if there was anything else we should know about this corridor to assist in making a decision and to identify whether any other safety improvements might be needed. Local iwi were also contacted.

Prior to undertaking the formal consultation process, this corridor was examined and we identified the existing speed limit was not safe and appropriate for the current road characteristics and roadside environment.

Formal consultation was undertaken from 16 December 2020, extended from four to six weeks to accommodate the holiday period.

Consultation materials provided information that supported the proposed safe and appropriate speed limit.

The consultation was advertised on social media, on the Waka Kotahi website, in The Press and Selwyn Times newspapers and through the delivery of FreePost marked consultation submission forms locally. A media release was also issued.

People were able to submit their views through the electronic form, FreePost hard copy submission form and via email.

# 3. CONSULTATION QUESTION

The consultation phase is used to seek any additional information from stakeholders or the public that will help inform the decision about the proposed speed limit change.

During formal consultation we proposed the new speed limit and asked the public the following question **“Are there any other factors that we should consider when making our decision?”**

We consider all factors raised during formal consultation when making our decision on the new permanent speed limit.

## 4. SUMMARY AND RESPONSE TO SUBMISSIONS

We received 58 submissions. We appreciated the response from the community and thank all those who provided their feedback.

While some submissions did include factors that were taken into consideration when setting the new permanent speed limit, a proportion of the submissions expressed only a general opinion about the speed review. These included issues about driver behaviour, traffic volumes and enforcement.

The relevant factors that were expressed in the feedback from the public are summarised in the table below. The table outlines the main factors people raised in their submissions and our comments.

Factors raised in submissions	Waka Kotahi comment
<p>Lowering the limit further to 70km/h</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency and uniformity with Templeton township</li> <li>• Journey time saved by increasing the speed limit by 10km/h for such a short stretch is minimal and feels unnecessary</li> <li>• Drivers would speed up to 80km/h exiting the roundabout.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A 70km/h speed limit between Templeton and Dawsons Road would be very difficult to implement due to the nature of the road environment in this rural section.</li> <li>• When reviewing speed limits, we are careful to consider credibility. Compliance is greater when the speed limit is perceived to be consistent with that road's function, design, safety risk and use, and therefore is judged to be justified and credible. Consistent credibility of speed limits is important so that drivers comply across all our roads. Where the road environment is rural and has wide open spaces, 70km/h would be less obvious or credible to drivers. This means driver compliance is likely to be low.</li> <li>• In Templeton the road environment is different and appears more urban and average operating speeds are less than 70km/h, suggesting compliance is good.</li> </ul>
<p>The current speed limit is too fast</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 29 submitters or 50% generally felt the slower speed would be safer and a better transition through to Templeton.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This supports the proposal to reduce the speed limit on SH1 from Templeton to Dawsons Road.</li> </ul>
<p>Keep the current speed limit</p> <p>People who did not support the review (17) or had mixed feedback (11: some felt the speed should be even lower than the limit proposed.) Reasons included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This corridor is not perceived as hazardous</li> <li>• Surrounding roads in slower speed zones are of worse quality</li> <li>• Increased congestion</li> <li>• Recent upgrades have cost money and time, only to be slowed down</li> <li>• Commutes will be longer for people when instead, drivers should learn to drive to open road conditions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to motorway construction, this section of road has had temporary speed limits in place for a couple of years now. The proposed lower speed limit will help regulate the speed of traffic travelling off the new motorway into Templeton township and create consistency with speed limits on adjacent side roads and fits the new road layout.</li> </ul>

Factors raised in submissions	Waka Kotahi comment
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Motorways should be built to function at higher speeds like overseas.</li> </ul>	
<p>Outside scope/other concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Safety concerns were raised about the SH1/Kirk Road intersection</li> <li>Prioritising the Templeton cycle lane to improve safety</li> <li>Lower the speed limit through Templeton township to 50km/h or extend the 70km/h speed limit further south of the township.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Kirk Road Level Crossing Upgrade is proposed for 2021. This upgrade will redirect trucks away from this crossing point to an official heavy vehicle route.</li> <li>Christchurch City Council has plans for the South Express cycleway in this area. Click the link for more info: <a href="https://ccc.govt.nz/transport/cycling/cycle-routes">https://ccc.govt.nz/transport/cycling/cycle-routes</a></li> <li>Speed review areas are prioritised nationally by the greatest potential for reducing deaths and serious injuries. Templeton is lower on the list so may be reviewed at a later date; however, it is not included in the scope of this review.</li> </ul>

## 5. DECISION

The table below shows the recommendations Waka Kotahi formally consulted on between 16 December 2020 to Monday 1 February 2021.

The submissions did not identify any issues that Waka Kotahi had not already considered.

The outcome of the speed review was in line with the proposed speed limit change, and the permanent speed limit outlined below will come into effect on Wednesday 3 March 2021.

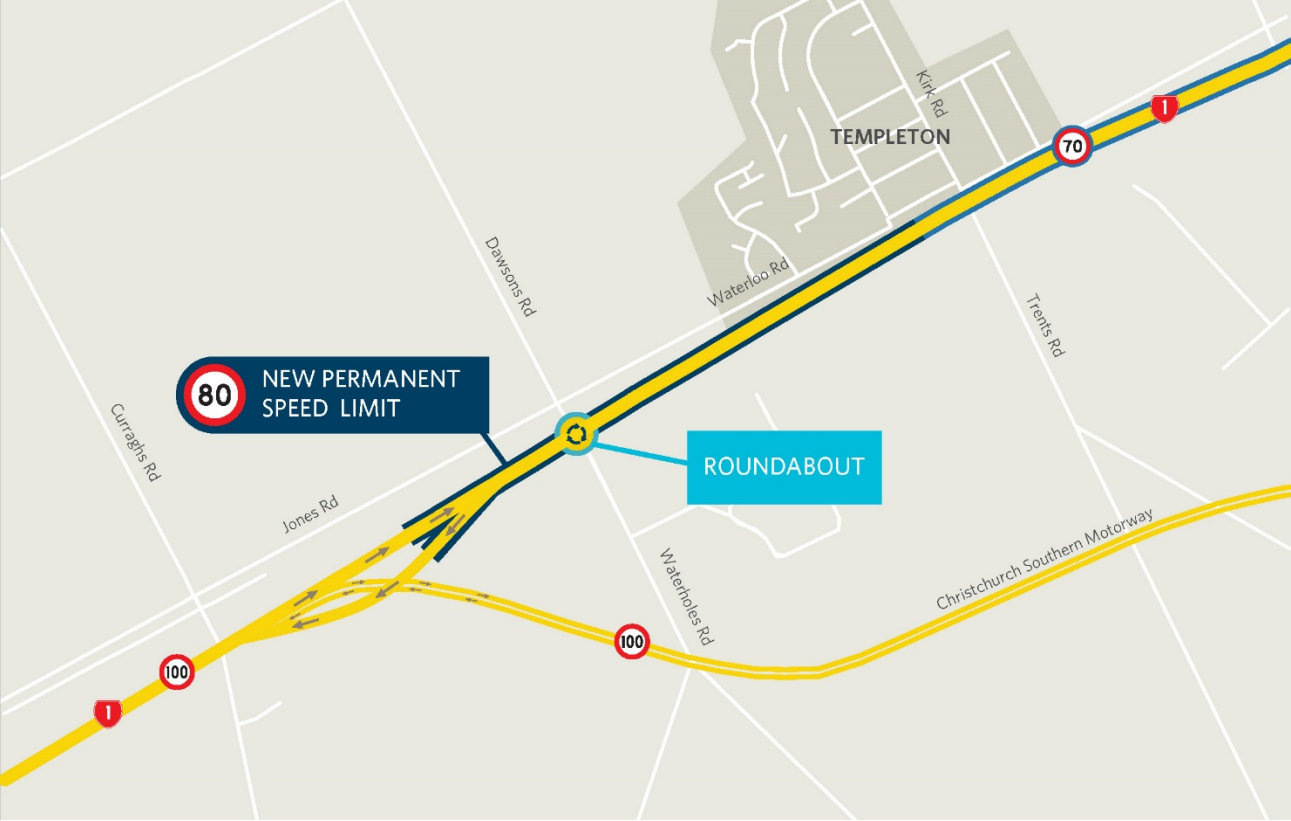
Stakeholders will be notified by letter and the public are being notified via email, media release, newspaper advertising, and social media ahead of the new speed limit signs being installed and the new speed limits taking effect.

When the new speed limit takes effect, VMS (variable message signs) will be on display and local police will be in the area to help alert and remind drivers. The area will be monitored, including the northbound passing lane from Dawsons Roundabout, to ensure the new permanent speed limit and supporting treatments are working effectively and to determine if any further changes are required.

The following new speed limit will apply from Wednesday 3 March 2021.

SH1 Templeton to Dawsons Road (Corridor length: 1.9km)	New speed limit from 3 March 2021
<b>SH1 - northbound direction</b>	
275m from the end of the SH1 off-ramp exiting the Christchurch Southern Motorway to 200m south of Trents Road	80km/h
<b>SH1 - southbound direction</b>	
From 200m south of Trents Road to 25m from the start of the SH1 on-ramp entering the Christchurch Southern Motorway	80km/h

# Map showing the permanent speed limit



## 6. SUBMISSIONS

You can view the submissions we received for this speed review on our website:

[www.nzta.govt.nz/sh1-templeton-to-dawsons-road](http://www.nzta.govt.nz/sh1-templeton-to-dawsons-road)