



Press Release

Wednesday 28th May 2008

Student battle finally won

After a five month campaign for a safer speed limit to be implemented on the A308, Morley, the fight for the reduction of the dangerous 60mph stretch has finally been reduced to 40mph, meaning that the Derby College Students' Union's 'Make it safe, make it 40!' campaign was a success.

The battle began shortly after four young lives were taken in a car collision less than 300 metres from Derby College; Broomfield Hall campus. The Students' Union decided to take immediate action with the help of concerned students, staff and local residents to begin a campaign to fight for the reduction of the current speed limit on the Morley stretch.



Above: Campaign signage which has already helped raise awareness to motorists passing on the A308 stretch and encourages them to reduce their speed

Students from Derby College and the General Manager of the Students' Union, Nick Billinge presented their objections and concerns regarding the hazardous road to the Derbyshire County Council on Friday 15th February 2008, at their headquarters in Matlock and have since waited patiently for action to be taken.

During a meeting which took place on Wednesday 14th May 2008 at Morley Primary School between Brian Lucas and Mike Hawkins from the DCC and Nick Billinge, College Representatives and members of the Morley Crossing Working Group, it was announced that the current speed limit would finally be reduced.

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It is hoped after the final stages of the consultation and the necessary notices have been issued, that it will take six to eight weeks for this change to be set in place. The DCC will initially put up the correct 40mph signage on the road followed by Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) which will flash to alert motorists to slow down. The stretch of road in which the new speed limit will cover is to be before and after the sharp bends either side of the Derby College campus; making a safer environment for both students and staff at the site.

Unfortunately this new change is subjected to an eighteen month trial period which will be monitored by the DCC to see if the speed limit has made an impact upon the speed of traffic against previous surveys. This will test if motorists have reduced their speed to account for the new enforceable speed limit.

The Derby College Students' Union are very pleased with the results from their campaign but are aware that their battle is still not over. Nick Billinge states 'we need to ensure that DCC know this is the right decision and a change for the better, so is advising students, staff and College visitors to send letter of support for these changes to DCC'; to do this the Students' Union will be working together with Derby College and will be continuing their campaign and producing a new range of materials for students, staff and local residents to use to send to the DCC.

If you would like to keep up to dated on this campaign and other activities of Derby College Students' Union, please visit the Derby College Students' Union website www.dcsu.co.uk

Ends

Interviews

Members of Derby College Students' Union will be available for comment - please contact Nick Billinge on the details below.

Further information:

For more information about the campaign please contact:

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