

ANNEX C

Briefing paper on the existing speed table at the Field Lane traffic lights.

The construction of the new Dean's Acre link road, formation of the signalised junction with Field Lane, and the road narrowing/speed table detail on Field Lane, were all part of the agreed transport strategy that adopted through the planning process for the new East Campus at the University. It was designed by consultants (Aecom) working for the University, and was implemented by them under a Section 38 agreement using external contractors.

The speed table was included in the layout primarily to slow traffic at a critical point where large numbers of pedestrians and cyclists would be crossing the road. In addition, the agreed transport strategy was to encourage all through traffic to use the new link road and innovation Way, rather than the bottom section of Field Lane near the school and church. Hence the road narrowing and speed table were designed to make this section of Field Lane less attractive and obvious to use as through route, whilst still remaining open and available for use by the locals.

As part of the overall strategy there remains a proposal to modify the gyratory section of University Road to further encourage pedestrian and cycle journeys, and improve the environment around that area of the village and Main Street. This could potentially incorporate further changes to Field Lane to further manage out vehicular traffic and make the speed table less important. However, when it has been suggested that this section of Field Lane could be made one-way, or possibly closed part way down, these ideas have not been well received by local residents who are opposed to any restrictions on their route choices. Hence this scheme has been suspended pending more evidence and local acceptance that such a scheme is required.

There have been complaints about the profile of the Field Lane speed table, and in particular the inconsistency of the ramps on either side. The ramp on the Church side is noticeably steeper than the other side, and is also steeper on one side than the other. This has recently had some work to correct this, but it still seen as a problem to some people, who would like to see the speed table removed.

Anyone wishing to avoid going over this speed table can do so by travelling along the Dean's Acre/Innovation Way alternative route. This is not a great additional distance to travel.