

**Criteria for assessing speed issues, as agreed at Meeting of Executive Members for City Strategy and Advisory Panel - October 2006:-**

This established that, speeding issues should be assessed against certain criteria:-

1. **a. Injury accident record** - based upon North Yorkshire Police data, for the preceding three years, and prioritised on severity using the standard categorisations of fatal, serious, or slight. Officers use a points scoring system to rank sites as high or low. This is based on a slight casualty receiving 1 point, with a fatal or serious casualty being weighted at 4 points. A total points score of 6 or more is need for the site to be given a "high" ranking.
 

**b. Speed data** - collected using automatic counting equipment and conducted over a period of at least 24 hours.
2. The **mean (average) speed** recorded by the survey provides a good overall indication of the speed environment, but it does not give a good indication of how many drivers may be exceeding the legal speed limit by a significant amount.
3. The **85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed** helps to show this by indicating the speed not exceeded by 85 % of the traffic surveyed, and hence is the level exceeded by the other 15%. Based on national guidelines, the threshold levels generally used by the Police for speed limit enforcement purposes are worked out by the following formula:-
4. Threshold speed = speed limit + 10% + 2mph. For example in a 20 zone, the formula would look like:-
5. Speed limit + 10%+ 2mph = 20mph + 2 + 2mph = **24mph**
6. The table below summarises the thresholds above which vehicle speeds are regarded as "high" within the assessment framework adopted by the Council:

Speed Limit	Threshold (mean speeds)	Threshold (85 <sup>th</sup> percentile speeds)
20 mph	20 mph	24 mph
30 mph	30 mph	35 mph
40 mph	40 mph	46 mph
60 mph	60 mph	68 mph

7. Is then categorised using a scale of 1 - 4, with 1 being the highest priority, as shown in the following table:

Category	Speed	Casualties	Priority	Treatment
1	High	High	Very High	Speed management measures
2	Low	High	High	Casualty reduction measures
3	High	Low	Medium	Speed management measures, <i>if funds available or through Ward Committee Funding</i>
4	Low	Low	Low	None