

2011 No. 643

ROAD TRAFFIC

The A303 Trunk Road (Hayes End Roundabout, South Petherton) (40mph Speed Limit and Derestriction) Order 2011

Made - - - - 4 March 2011

Coming into force - - 31 March 2011

The Secretary of State for Transport, in exercise of powers conferred by section 84(1)(a) and (2) and sections 82(2) and 83(1) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984(a) and (b) makes the following Order:-

1. This Order may be cited as the A303 Trunk Road (Hayes End Roundabout, South Petherton) (40 mph Speed Limit and Derestriction) Order 2011 and shall come into force on 31 March 2011.

2. No person shall cause or permit any vehicle to be driven at a speed exceeding 40 miles per hour on lengths of the A303 trunk road at Hayes End Roundabout, near South Petherton, in the District of South Somerset in the County of Somerset: (a)(i) from a point on the eastbound carriageway 295 metres west of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout to the western edge of that roundabout, and from the eastern edge of Hayes End Roundabout to a point on the eastbound carriageway 60 metres east of the centre of that roundabout; (ii) from a point on the westbound carriageway 340 metres north-east of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout to the eastern edge of that roundabout, and from the western edge of Hayes End Roundabout to a point on the westbound carriageway 295 metres west of the centre of that roundabout; and (iii) to include the circulatory carriageway of Hayes End Roundabout, and (b) the connecting slip roads at Hayes End Roundabout to: (i) the unclassified road, to and from Yeabridge, to a point 50 metres south-east of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout; ii) Harp Road, to and from Ilminster, to a point 54 metres south-west of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout; and iii) Hayes End Road, to and from South Petherton, to a point 54 metres north of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout.

3. The length of the eastbound carriageway of the A303 from a point 142 metres north-east of the centre of Hayes End Roundabout to a point 60 metres north-east of the centre of that roundabout, a distance of 82 metres shall cease to be a restricted road for the purpose of section 81 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

(a) 1984 c.27; section 84(1) was substituted by Road Traffic Act 1991 (c.40), section 45(2) and section 84(2) was substituted by the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (c.22), section 168 and Schedule 8, paragraph 61.

(b) 1984 (c.27); new sections 82(2) and 83(1) were amended by the New Roads and Street Works Act 1991 (c.22), section 168 and Schedule 8, paragraph 59(3) and 60(2).

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State
for Transport

4 March 2011

David Sledge
An Area Performance Manager
in the Highways Agency

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This does not form part of the Order)

The proposed Order would impose a 40mph speed limit on sections of the A303 trunk road at Hayes End Roundabout, near South Petherton in Somerset, including the circulatory carriageway of the roundabout, and on the slip roads connecting the roundabout with the unnamed and unclassified road south-eastbound to Yeabridge, with Harp Road south-westbound to Ilminster, and with Hayes End Road northbound to South Petherton.

The Order would also derestrict a short section of the eastbound carriageway of the A303 on the east side of Hayes End Roundabout.

Hayes End Roundabout is located south of South Petherton at the junction of the A303 with Harp Road, Hayes End Road and an unnamed unclassified road. It was included in a study of roundabouts on the A303 route in 2006 which had high accident rates; 22 injury accidents were recorded at Hayes End Roundabout during a five year period between 2004 and 2008. The study identified that high traffic speeds approaching the roundabouts were a significant factor.

Hayes End Roundabout is lit on the roads approaching it and on the circulatory carriageway. National speed limits apply; which are 70mph on the A303 dual carriageway road approaching from the east of the roundabout, 60mph on all single carriageway roads, and 30mph throughout the lit section. The absence of speed limit repeater signs throughout the lit section can lead to driver confusion as to which speed limits should apply. Introducing a 40mph limit on the approach roads and throughout the roundabout will help overcome driver confusion and can be expected to reduce accidents and improve road safety.