

Note on 85th Percentile Speed

1. During cross examination of Susan Tilbrook on S31 Mutton Hall, the matter of the vehicle speeds at the road bridge were discussed. It was noted that she had referred to 85% speeds at paragraph 2.19.19 of her Proof of Evidence NR32/1.
2. It was intended that '85% speed' should have read '85th percentile' speed.
3. The 85th percentile speed is the speed that 85 percent of vehicles do not exceed and may be defined as the speed at or below 85% of all vehicles are observed to travel under free-flowing conditions past a nominated point. Another way of looking at this is that only 15 percent of vehicles go faster than this speed.
4. The 85th percentile speed is recognised as the 'operating speed' of the road and used within the Highways and Traffic engineering disciplines as the industry standard measure for the 'design speed' of the road.