

South Yorkshire Residential Design Guide 2001
Street design features that are unhelpful in moderating speed

Features	Details
Wide carriageway	Encourages speeding by providing greater visibility and room for driver error or avoiding hazards
Wide lanes	Marked lanes with generous width conveys the message that drivers have the “right to the street”
One-way operation	Absence of oncoming vehicles encourages higher speeds
“Long” unobstructed views	Higher speeds are encouraged where the way ahead is seen to be clear.
Lane and centre-line markings	Convey traffic priority and also assist drivers to manoeuvre at higher speeds.
Smooth driving surface	Makes driving comfortable at higher speeds
Optical width > 1:1	The width between vertical features (usually buildings or trees) is greater than the height of those features
Absence of pedestrians	Without “eyes on the street” or any chance that someone will cross the street, higher speeds can result
Large corner radii	Enables drivers to negotiate turns at speed, and also removes need for following vehicles to slow
Verges or other open areas adjacent to carriageway	Increases optical width and separates pedestrians from vehicles, encouraging higher speeds. However, verges planted with trees can have a favourable effect.
No vertical/lateral shifts in carriageway	Absence of speed limiting measures allows speeding without discomfort to drivers or passengers
Deep sight lines at junctions	Drivers can see that there is no vehicle on the side street and so will be less likely to slow approaching the junction
Absence of landscaping, trees, other street features	Streets that appear “unpopulated” can encourage higher speeds
Signs, road markings, bollards and other “traffic architecture”	Encourages drivers to the attitude that they have the right of way and priority over other street activity
Traffic-scale lighting, furniture	Encourages drivers to the attitude that they have the right of way and priority over other street activity
Parking randomly on carriageway	May limit speeds when oncoming vehicles present, but the effect is not generally guaranteed or beneficial