

Proposed Restricted Roads (20mph Limit) (Scotland) Bill

Page 2: About you

Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

an individual

Which of the following best describes you? (If you are a professional or academic, but not in a subject relevant to the consultation, please choose "Member of the public".)

Member of the public

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

No Response

Please choose one of the following; if you choose the first option, please provide your name or the name of your organisation as you wish it to be published.

I am content for this response to be attributed to me or my organisation

Please insert your name or the name of your organisation. If you choose the first option above, this should be the name as you wish it to be published. If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Martin Gemmell

Please provide details of a way in which we can contact you if there are queries regarding your response. Email is preferred but you can also provide a postal address or phone number. We will not publish these details.

Page 7: Your views on the proposal

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to replace the current 30mph default speed limit on restricted roads with a 20mph limit.

Fully Supportive

Q1. Which of the following best expresses your view of the proposal to replace the current 30mph default speed limit on restricted roads with a 20mph limit.

Please explain the reasons for your response

If a child is hit by a car being driven at 30mph they have a 70% chance of dying. If they are hit by a car being driven at 20mph they have a 70% chance of surviving. This reason should be enough now to make the speed limit 20mph. Other factors include - 20mph is the speed cars travel at in for example Central Edinburgh anyway. Driving at 20mph is a way of being more observant of the environment you are driving through. Too many drivers are on auto-pilot or on their phones when they should be concentrating. Driving at 20mph is pleasurable for the driver and indeed everyone driving at 20mph means everyone is chilled out and cheerful and child friendly. Chilled Out, Cheerful and Child Friendly is a good way to be.

Q2. Could the aims of this proposal be better delivered in another way (without a Bill in the Scottish Parliament)?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response

Needs to be mandatory and needs to be widespread. We need a generational attitude shift. Please do not be piecemeal or tentative. Be bold.

Q3. What do you think would be the main advantages, if any, of the proposal?

Fewer child fatalities from cars being driven into them
Better air quality (no speeding up and then braking at next junction)
Better driving experience - continuous twenty is great for traffic management
More relaxed environment for drivers, pedestrians and other road users such as cyclists.

Q4. What do you think would be the main disadvantages, if any, of the proposal?

No disadvantages. I do not believe journey times will increase in any statistically significant way.

Q5. What other measures do you think would be needed to maximise compliance with the new national 20mph speed limit on restricted roads, for example in relation to advertising signage and police enforcement.

Police will have to fine some drivers. Not many and then the behaviour change will occur.

Q6. Taking account of both costs and potential savings, what financial impact would you expect the proposed Bill to have?

	Significant increase in cost	Some increase in cost	Broadly cost-neutral	Some reduction in cost	Significant reduction in cost	Unsure
Scottish Government			X			
Local Authorities			X			
Motorists				X		
Other			X			
Police Scotland						

Please explain the reasons for your response

Motorists will have to spend less on wear and tear of their vehicles. Fuel consumption should improve.

Q7. Do you believe there will be any other benefits to reducing the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph?

Yes our society will be able to describe itself as Child Friendly.

Page 14: Equalities

Q8. What overall impact is the proposed Bill likely to have on the following protected groups (under the Equality Act 2010): race, disability, sex, gender re-assignment, age, religion and belief, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity?

Positive

Please explain the reasons for your response

Age - will have huge impact on children and future generations. Should also benefit the elderly.

Q9. Could any negative impact of the proposed Bill on any of these protected groups be minimised or avoided?

I cannot see any negative impact for anyone.

Page 16: Sustainability of the proposal

Q10. Do you consider that the proposed Bill can be delivered sustainably i.e. without having likely future disproportionate economic, social and/or environmental impact?

Yes

Please explain the reasons for your response:

A few fines should lead to behavioural change. Traffic in 20mph zones will progress at the 20mph speed without overtaking. The whole way we travel will change. People will be more relaxed instead of angry in their vehicles. This can be sustained at no cost by creating the behavioural change.

Page 17: General

Q11. Do you have any other comments or suggestions on the proposal to establish a 20mph default speed limit on restricted roads?

This is an important piece of legislation for children now and for our future. It will also reduce Road Traffic Accidents for people of all ages.