

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 would like this response to be anonymous (the response may be published, but no name)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

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

In my view, cities should be accessible and safe to all its inhabitants. Infrastructures and policies need to support all of us equally and not just those who are able to drive and afford a car. This is in no way against cars. Cars are amazing inventions, making us more mobile, and can be of great benefit to a diverse range of people. However, to me it's of pivotal importance to consider a city's diverse population and that everyone should have the equal right to life, play, and exist within them. When I think of a city I think of children, pedestrians, tired people, daydreamers, drunk people, cyclists; and dogs, cats and low flying seagulls; and the elderly, the disabled, the one's who can't get their eyes off their smartphone screens and the one's who run late to catch that bus or train. Everyone's somehow trying to navigate the space, and many times many of them will fail - for whatever reason - to navigate the space adequately. We could spend a lot of time, money and energy to educate those people to navigate the city sphere properly. Much will be in vain; good luck trying to educate people with no or temporarily or permanently lost road sense. The easier solution seems to reduce the potential of a significant risk factor: cars. By reducing the speed limit, and research is on my side here, the risks of collisions and any consequences stemming from them can be reduced drastically. And that's great, and to me worth the time car drivers will potentially lose. After all, cars are dry, warm and comfy spaces with access to music, podcasts and the news. Not the worst space to be losing time in. Let's just hope the extra tune or two are great!

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

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response

That's for people with more knowledge about legal matters to evaluate.

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

Greater road safety. Cities that are more accessible to everyone. Please see previous explanation for further details.

Less confusion about what speed limit applies. The lack of signage makes it usually quite difficult to know what the actual speed limit is when in a new city. A default 20mph would make it very obvious what the speed limit is.

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

Increased travel times for car drivers (doesn't bother me although I drive myself quite regularly).

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.

- speed cameras in city's
- more and clearer signage
- more police enforcement of speed limits
- a positive educational campaign highlighting the benefits of the 20mph speed limit

Page 12: Financial implications

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

I have no idea about the financial implications of the proposal.

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

It's easier and more relaxing to drive when the car is slower.

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

As stated more elegant and in more elaborate language earlier on: it's more difficult to frighten, injure or kill a child, pregnant woman, someone with a disability, etc. when the speed limit is lower.

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

I don't know.

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:

Sure, it's been done before. Consult other cities. Learn from them. Be imaginative. Look beyond Scotland. Beyond the UK. There's an entire continent with great examples on our doorstep.

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?

No.