

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

Partially 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

It depends on the situation. Common sense needs to be applied. I support a 20mph limit directly outside schools during the high risk hours when pedestrians and children are present but not when it is unjustified, e.g. outwith school hours or during holidays. Roads adjoining parks and playgrounds should also be evaluated as to whether they would benefit from a reduced speed limit. Roads which are particularly narrow, e.g. single track roads outside houses with no pavement can pose an equally high risk for pedestrians as roads outside schools. Our village school is situated on a rural, but often busy, A road where the national speed limit of 60mph applies. There is no car park so parents have to contend with fast traffic while trying to keep their children safe. If existing speed limits were enforced and adhered to there would be less requirement for reduced speeds. Driver education is also key. If stricter speed limits are applied over great distances forcing traffic to a crawl without justification, drivers tend to get frustrated, speed up and overtake leading to greater risk.

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

In our rural situation this bill would do nothing to alleviate the road safety concerns of parents and school staff. This bill needs to cover all schools not just those in restricted roads.

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

Making drivers more aware of their responsibility to adhere to speed limits for a specific reason.
Less risk for pedestrians and other road users.

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

Drivers who currently speed and disregard speed limits will continue to do so.
Limiting traffic to 20mph for long distances without tangible evidence of a need to do so will cause irritation and anger in drivers at delayed journeys for no obvious reason, which can lead to bad driving and higher risk.

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.

Better driver education, particular for learners and younger drivers who are often sadly ignorant of the highway code and other road users.
You'll still have folk driving along in their own little world oblivious to the danger they pose to others.

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						
Police Scotland						

Please explain the reasons for your response

Motorists may face increased costs in child care if journeys take significantly longer, slower journeys can lead to increased fuel costs when traffic jams are involved.

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

Greater driver awareness of risks.

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?

Neutral (neither positive nor negative)

Please explain the reasons for your response

I don't see the relevance of this question except that it may make things marginally safer for people with limited mobility in crossing the road.

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

No Response

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?

No

Please explain the reasons for your response:

It could potentially lead to increased commuting times which will lead to greater environmental impact in terms of pollution and health.

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?

I think a default speed limit should only apply directly outside schools, during high risk hours. It should only be applied where appropriate to the circumstances.