

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

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

I think a blanket 20mph speed limit would cause frustration and road rage and would cause more frequent gear changes, which in turn would cause drivers to be less smooth with their driving which in turn would cause more pollution. Also, it would introduce costs to our already financially stretched council, who would need to re-introduce the 30mph speed limit to create faster 'through-routes'. However, a 20mph speed limit would be advisable near schools, as per the current restrictions.

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

Yes (if so, please explain below)

Please explain the reasons for your response

Reducing Serious Road Traffic Accidents - Motorways are one of the safest roads. Improved Health - I don't agree with the statement that "Lowering speed limits encourages walking and cycling". I think how far you are traveling is the key factor in how you get to your destination. Also, if public transport was nicer, more regular and more affordable then people would be more likely to use it. Air Pollution Will Be Reduced - Vehicle emissions are worst when accelerating, therefore a lower speed with more gear changes may increase deceleration and acceleration, which in turn would cause more air pollution. What is required is for traffic flow to be more constant to reduce the amount of deceleration and then acceleration required. Therefore in summary: I think that improving the flow of traffic and the public transport would be more beneficial to these aims.

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

The main advantage is that the roads would be much safer.

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

Driver frustration and increased pollution due to more gear changes and acceleration.

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.

The current 30mph signs would need to be replaced with 20mph signs or removed except where a 30mph through-route has been identified.

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

Scottish Government and Local Authorities will have an increase in cost to change the current signage. Motorists may have an increase in gearbox/clutch wear. Other - pedestrians and cyclists will have a significant reduction in the cost of their safety.

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

No

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)

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

Improving the flow of traffic would help against the potential increase in pollution.

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

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 feel the current speed limits are suitable and are tailored to each type of road.