

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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

Modern vehicles have a much better braking system than the vehicles that were used to test for the original highway code. Stopping distances are much higher, driving test skills are taught to a much higher level. Slowing cars down further is more harmful to the environment as there will be more emissions produced as engines are not designed to run at such low speeds and a lower gear will need to be used to enable full control of the vehicle. If anything speed limits should be increased with the modern braking systems on cars, the introduction of ABS on all vehicles now (including motorbikes)

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**

I have voted 'No' to this question, as without a Bill in Scottish Parliament I may not have heard and now I have the ability to oppose this old fashioned, non engineering based request.

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

There are no advantages.

Safety 'could' be cited as one, but with such a slow speed, many drivers will be so careful to be checking the Speedometer they will not be looking where they are going.

As 20mph is such a low speed, modern cars are not calibrated well even and the accuracy of the speedometer would be in question.

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

1. Drivers will be looking at their speedometer for the unrealistic speed required. This means they will be distracted from the road ahead.
2. Emissions, cars will be running in lower gears at higher revs, thus:
  - a. using more petrol
  - b. creating more noise in built up areas
  - c. if they are not in lower gears they will not be in full control of their vehicles
3. A further safety concern is, due to the ridiculously low speed threshold, many drivers will simply overtake the cars adhering to 20mph thus causing more of a hazard in the very build up areas that the Bill is (naively) intended to reduce the risk of accident through a misplaced understanding of speed being the cause of incidents. INAPPROPRIATE SPEED may be contributed to accidents, NOT Speed itself.

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.

I do not believe it should be compliant.

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**

New signs are expensive, extra police when it is ignored and Motorists who are fined or have more accidents and use more fuel will also be a significant cost.

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

No - none. It will be entirely negative.

## 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?

Negative

**Please explain the reasons for your response**

explained previously

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

No.

## 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

## 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?

Ridiculous waste of time and money which will have a very negative impact on Scotland.