

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

Page 2: About you

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

on behalf of an organisation

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".)

No Response

Please select the category which best describes your organisation

Third sector (charitable, campaigning, social enterprise, voluntary, non-profit)

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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.

Isle of Arran Community

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

Your proposed Bill was published on our Community Forum, where residents were asked to comment. Out of 25 comments, no one thought a blanket reduction, as proposed, was a good idea.

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

It is quite clear what is proposed.

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

The proposal offers a relatively less expensive means of applying a blanket reduction in speed in built-up areas, with a consequent reduction in serious accidents involving pedestrians.

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

Even on a rural island, people need to attend to business. Traffic is already slowed by cyclists, farm traffic and animals, frequently delaying those attending hospital, catching ferries and commuting. A blanket speed of 20mph will only exacerbate such problems. We dispute the claimed benefit of fuel economy and emissions reduction, since vehicles are not designed to run efficiently at such low speed, necessitating the use of lower gears.

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.

A high proportion of community comments referred to the difficulty of enforcing current legislation with regard to 20mph restrictions. Having consulted with our local Police force, it is clear that enforcement would involve a great deal of their time.

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 | | | | |

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

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| Local Authorities | | X | | | | |
| Motorists | | X | | | | |
| Other | | X | | | | |
| Police Scotland | | | | | | |

Please explain the reasons for your response

There are cost implications for administration, signage, enforcement, collection of fines and court processes. Motorists will use more fuel and have to allow extra time for journeys, with attendant personal costs, including childcare. Businesses will be less productive.

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?

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:

For the reasons already expressed.

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?

It was generally considered a draconian and possibly even a ridiculous proposal.