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 If you choose the second or third option, a name is still required, but it will not be published.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 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
a high percentage of streets affected have such limited access that signage saying "20" is just an unneeded expense. Most drivers use common sense. Driving is about common sense. Passing a cyclist at 20 on already narrow roads with obstacles prolongs the danger period for the cyclist. To pass a cyclist safely I need to give them space. Driving at 20 exposes me to a lengthier passing time which narrows the road for oncoming vehicles. Either ban cars or accept they exist and can go faster that bikes and provide safe spaces for cycling.

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
Promote common sense road use for all. Car drivers MUST exercise common sense and pass tests proving they are fit for the task. I believe those tests should be much more stringent and reapplied at regular intervals (creating revenue and showing that driving is a privilege not a right) but I also believe that cycling proficiency should return and be a legal obligation. Much more provision for cyclists is needed in terms of infrastructure

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

In many ways it is a safer speed

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

Slower journey times (I live in Edinburgh and have first hand experience). Public transport slowed down drastically. Danger to cyclist in regards to cars passing them - takes longer exposing them to risk, especially from parked car doors opening. Driver frustration. To much unneeded signage.

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 police already have powers to deal with dangerous or anti-social drivers. If someone is driving down a restricted street at an inappropriate speed then the police, if they observe this action, can stop, warn, fine or arrest the driver. A new law will add nothing to the fact that the police probably won't observe it 9 times out of 10. Car tracking devices?

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
Putting a bill through must cost something to all of us - wasted time that could be spent debating other issues. Local authorities will be responsible for unneeded signage I presume. Motorists will be paying more fines and the police will have another law to police and since broom broom car go fast they'll have an increased workload of criminalising mostly law abiding people driving at sensible speeds in a vain attempt to publicise the new law

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

More time to look at the scenery. Watch the children's faces as the breath in more fumes.

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
I presume they all include drivers...

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

Don't pass the bill

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?

Unsure

Please explain the reasons for your response:
My crystal ball is broken

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?

Just do it. You know you will anyway so that everyone can crow about how great that is and how, despite going slower, we're actually going faster and that, even though I'm crawling along belting out fumes there are magically less fumes cos a cycling scientist did a limited study. Why not debate the fact that even though Edinburgh got rid of cars from Princess Street it still takes 30 minutes to get along it?! It's unacceptable that we are told that we should use public transport that is then at a stand still. Just take the money and p*ss it where you want, done caring about "joined up strategy" when you can't even do a joined up bus service