

20mph Limits Professional Update: September 2010

20mph Limits – an inexpensive and popular way to improve safety, cut pollution and lock in smarter choices

20's Plenty



Where People Live

More than 2.5 million people now live in areas such as Portsmouth, Oxford, Leicester, Newcastle, Islington, Hackney, Bristol, Warrington, Colchester, Wirral and Southwark already committed to Total 20mph.

20mph is safer. Other reasons why 20mph limits should be introduced include:

Limits Cost 50 Times Less Than Home Zones- DfT Guidelines (1/06) relaxed the requirements for 20mph limits in residential areas. It is no longer mandatory to impose physical measures such as bumps. Limits cost £333 per street in Portsmouth.

Enforceable - 20mph speed limits are very much community led and establishment endorsed. Strong support from communities increasing police focus on community policing supports 20mph limits which can be enforced with a "light touch"

Popular - 72% of drivers support 20mph speed limits on residential streets. (British Social Attitudes Survey 2005)

Pollution, Climate Change and Air Quality When 30km/h (18.5mph) zones were introduced in Germany, car drivers on average changed gear 12% less often, braked 14% less often and required 12% less fuel.

Economic Impact - Lowering urban and residential limits to 20 mph (excluding arterial roads) increases car journey time by a maximum of just 40 seconds. At 20mph the gap between vehicles decreases, leading to improved flow.

Health Improvements – Decreased casualties plus increased likelihood of a shift to modes like walking and cycling, reduced local emissions and improved air quality

Quality of Life and Inequalities – Slower speeds benefit large numbers of non-car users, reducing noise and allowing better urban design standards for quality places. Those suffering greatest inequalities often live near busy roads and therefore benefit.

Feedback

We welcome your response on this briefing. We provide more information on our site www.20splentyforus.org.uk and can recommend experts on technical issues.

20's Plenty For Us campaigns for a 20mph default speed limit in residential streets without physical calming.

Anna Semlyen
Campaign Manager
20's Plenty for Us
anna.s@20splentyforus.org.uk
07572 120439

Rod King
Founder
20's Plenty for Us
rod.k@20splentyforus.org.uk
07973 639781