

Ken Skates AS/MS  
Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi, Trafnidiaeth a  
Gogledd Cymru  
Cabinet Secretary for the Economy, Transport and North  
Wales



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref WQ 90253

Huw Irranca-Davies MS

9 September 2024

Dear Huw

Further to your written question of the 22 December 2023, I am advised you have not received a response from the former Deputy Minister for Climate Change to whom you directed your request, below.

“Will Welsh Government introduce guidance for the public on how they can raise concerns over individual roads or stretches of roads which they believe should not have been included in the default 20 mph speed limit roll-out?”

When I addressed the Senedd in July, I laid out three key priorities: listening, partnership, and action. The National Listening Programme on 20mph has been central to delivering on those priorities. It has provided a platform to hear from people across Wales about how the 20mph speed limit is affecting them. Through this process, I’ve met with a wide range of stakeholders—older adults, disabled people, emergency services, businesses, motorists, cyclists, engineers, and elected representatives.

I’ve also visited communities throughout Wales to see for myself how the 20mph limit has been implemented and, most importantly, to hear directly from residents. Many of the conversations have focused on specific roads where the 20mph limit didn’t seem appropriate. At the same time, I’ve also heard from many who have warmly welcomed the change, sharing stories of how it has positively impacted their lives and communities.

Local authorities already provide links on their web pages for the public to raise any highway issues. These contact details have been collated as part of our National Listening Programme on Welsh Government’s website at the following links:

<https://www.gov.wales/give-feedback-roads-20mph-speed-limit>

<https://www.gov.wales/comment-20mph-speed-limits-local-authority-managed-roads>

This valuable feedback has been instrumental in shaping our next steps. One of the key outcomes of the Listening Programme was the clear need to refine our 20mph guidance. I am grateful to highway authority officials and the County Surveyors' Society Wales (CSSW) for their constructive input in developing the updated guidance, which was published in July. This guidance provides highway authorities with the tools to assess whether it is safe and appropriate to raise speed limits to 30mph on restricted roads and other 20mph roads, while considering local factors and circumstances.

This new guidance is available on our website at the following link:

<https://www.gov.wales/setting-30mph-speed-limits-restricted-roads-guidance-highway-authorities>

From September 2024, highway authorities can start to apply the new framework to assess 30mph speed limits on roads where a change is considered appropriate. The numbers of roads reviewed is expected to vary considerably depending on the volume of feedback received by each highway authority, and as a result the timescales for delivering change will vary from one local authority to another.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ken', enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

**Ken Skates AS/MS**

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