

Lewisham Vote for Fairer 20mph Limit for All LB Roads

A 20's Plenty for Us Press Release Jan 2015 www.20splentyforus.org.uk/PRel/Lewisham20.pdf

Total 20mph limits for all Borough controlled roads (all except TfL Red Routes) have been voted through by Lewisham's Mayor Sir Steven Bullock and Cabinet. The £1.13m plan aims to increase health equalities by tackling road danger through a consistent limit.

20's Plenty for Us

...making your place a better place to be

Lewisham is following the lead of other London Boroughs such as Islington, Camden, the City of London and Southwark in agreeing 20mph as the norm. Total 20mph is safer, fairer, more consistent, healthier, more active, friendlier, cleaner, quieter and better for business. It has no significant impact on overall journey times.

Plans are to implement a 20mph speed limit on all borough roads. The report¹ is mindful that, whilst 20mph limits on 65% of the borough's roads have helped address some casualty hotspots, it's time for a fairer approach for the remaining 35% to fully address inequalities for vulnerable road users. Often it is more deprived communities who live closest to main roads and therefore benefit most from borough-wide 20mph limits. These communities can expect to see lower levels of road casualties and reduced air pollution as more people feel confident to walk and cycle and are less likely to drive. The most disadvantaged residents in the borough will see improvements in health and in the longer term increasing life expectancy.

Jeremy Leach, London 20's Plenty for Us Co-ordinator said

"It is great news that Lewisham is joining London's rapidly growing band of 20mph boroughs. 20mph limits are popular as they make streets better places to be, especially for vulnerable, disabled or poorer citizens. With 12 of London's boroughs agreeing 20's Plenty, plus Edinburgh and many other leading cities, central government and Mayor of London must now plan the transition to 20mph as the default across London and the UK."

Lewisham plan to carry out a widespread 'hearts and minds' publicity and public information campaign as part of LB Lewisham's new Road Safety Plan focussing on fairness and consistency. Implementation will start in March 2016 with funding from council reserves.

The National 20mph conference on Thursday 12 March in Cambridge features the top UK experts from councils, public health, academia, equalities, social marketing, campaigning and more. There will be case studies on implementations in Liverpool, Manchester, Calderdale and Cambridge.

Chris Boardman MBE is representing cycling and Joe Irvin CEO of Living Streets pedestrians. Rod King MBE (for services to Road Safety) of 20's Plenty for Us has programmed the day. It is a Landor conference supported by Cambridge City Council.

Early booking discount is to 17th Feb and second delegate rate is £125. Full details and booking via <https://www.transportxtra.com/events/events/?id=2266>

¹ <http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s33032/Boroughwide%2020%20mph%20speed%20limit.pdf>

20's Plenty For Us campaigns for a 20mph default speed limit on urban and village streets.

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