

Edinburgh's 20mph Limit Trial A Resounding Success

A 20's Plenty for Us Press Release Sept 2014 www.20splentyforus.org.uk/PRel/Edinburgh.pdf

20's Plenty



Edinburgh's 20mph limit trial showed improved popularity, perceptions of safety and cycling and walking levels. Cycling to school trebled. Parental permission for outside play doubled. Speeds and car use fell. Proposals extend the benefits citywide.

Where People Live

South Central Edinburgh's 20mph limit trial resultsⁱ give a conclusive "YES" to community wide 20mph limits.

- Support for 20mph rose from 68% before to 79% after
- Those considering cycling to be unsafe fell from 26% to 18%
- Children cycling to school rose from 4% to 12%. For older primary age children it rose from 3% to 22%
- Children allowed to play on the pavement or street rose from 31% to 66%
- Walking trips rose 7%, cycling trips rose 5% and car trips fell 3%.
- Speeds fell an average 1.9mph and by 3.3mph where before speeds were over 24mph

The report concludes that *"Collectively, these conditions offer the ingredients to create 'liveable' streets, and help encourage behaviour change through increased active travel in the longer-term"*

Police wardens were resourced to monitor speeds with a high visibility presence, undertake spot check speed surveys and issue Community Speed Concern letters to drivers who exceeded the 20mph speed limit by 5mph.

Residents reported the main benefits as

- safety for children walking about the area,
- safety for children to play in the street,
- better conditions for walking,
- less traffic incidents,
- better cycling conditions

Edinburgh's 20mph extension policy across the remainder of the city is under consultationⁱⁱ. It includes

- all **residential streets** [*now commonplace in the UK*]
- all **main shopping streets** [*becoming more common*]
- other **streets with significant pedestrian and/or cyclist use** [*note that places like City of London, Islington, Camden and Paris have also chosen 20mph for as many streets as possible.*]

Rod King MBE said *"Edinburgh's results prove again how wide-area 20mph limits can civilise streets and win popular endorsement. Residents feel the benefits. Councillors and Public Health Directors can be confident that 20mph limits are evidenced as the right way forward for our public realm."*

Contact 20's Plenty for Us for free help to get 20mph limits where you live. We talk to anyone! Please ask.

ⁱ http://www.20splentyforus.org.uk/UsefulReports/South_Central_Edinburgh_20mph_Limit_Pilot_Evaluation.pdf

ⁱⁱ http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20089/roads_and_pavements/1024/20mph_consultation

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

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