

EU Transport Committee calls for 20mph speed limits for residential streets

A 20's Plenty for Us Press Release – June 2011

20's Plenty



Where People Live

20's Plenty for Us welcomes the call by the EU Committee on Transport and Tourism for 30km/h (20mph) speed limits in all residential areas.

20mph speed limits for residential areas has come out as the **key recommendation** of the EU Transport and Tourism Committee on improving road safety in Europe.

The Committee comprises MEPs from a wide range of political parties and countries and is seeking to halve EU road deaths and injuries by 2020. The Committee sets out specific measures to reach this goal and in its press release¹ identifies 20mph limits as key for protecting children :-

Protect Children

MEP's call for a 30km/h speed limit in all residential roads and on single-lane roads without cycle tracks, to help cut the number of children under 14 years old killed by 60% and those seriously injured by 40%. They also say children should be taught road safety at the youngest possible age.

This comes just days after the UK's Transport Minister, Norman Baker, announced changes in signage requirements which make it far easier and cheaper for local authorities to implement wide area 20mph limits for cities, towns and villages.

Rod King, Founder and Campaign Director for 20's Plenty for Us commented:-

"We have been working with MEP's for some time² to show how the 20's Plenty for Us campaign in the UK is attracting wide political and community support as an effective initiative to reduce danger on our roads and develop the right conditions to make our streets better places to be.

This recommendation is recognition of not only the success of lower speeds in the countries already adopting wide area 30km/h limits and that, as evidenced in the UK, it is possible to "retro-fit" our streets with lower speeds that are accepted by communities and result in reduced casualties.

We now have over 5m people living in towns, villages and counties where the local authority has adopted a Total 20 policy³.

20 really is Plenty where people live and this new recommendation of best practice from a European perspective reflects the importance of this move towards a safer and more pleasant street environment for us all"

20's Plenty For Us campaigns for a 20mph default speed limit in residential streets without physical calming. We welcome comment and feedback. www.20splentyforus.org.uk

¹ How to halve road accident deaths and injuries by 2020. EU Committee on Transport and Tourism <http://tinyurl.com/EUTRAN20mph>

² See videos of our recent work with EU at <http://www.20splentyforus.org.uk/videos.htm>.

See our Briefing Sheet at http://www.20splentyforus.org.uk/BriefingSheets/30kph_Good_for_UK-Good_for_EU.pdf

³ Total 20 – Setting 20mph as the default speed limit for residential roads without speed bumps.

20's Plenty for Us campaigns for 20 mph speed limits without road calming as the default in towns and residential areas

Anna Semlyen, Campaign Manager

anna.s@20splentyforus.org.uk

07572 120439

Rod King, Campaign Director

rod.k@20splentyforus.org.uk

07973 639781