

71% Support Residential 20 mph Limits in Latest British Social Attitudes Survey

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

20's Plenty

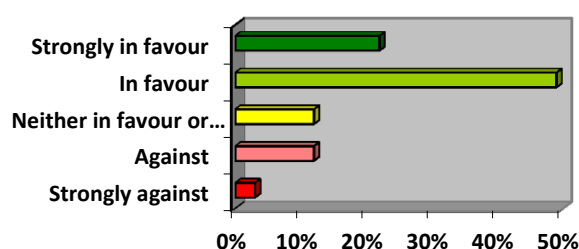


Where People Live

71% of adults want residential speed limits of 20 mph in the 2010 British Social Attitudes Survey¹. Slower residential speed limits are a popular way to improve safety and quality of life.

The majority (71%) of respondents were in favour or strongly in favour of speed limits of twenty miles per hour in residential streets. Attitudes to "having speed limits of 20mph in residential streets were:-

Strongly in favour	22%
In favour	49%
Neither in favour or against	12%
Against	12%
Strongly against	3%



Only 15% were against 20mph speed limits. The clear message is that 20 mph limits for residential roads is a transport policy that is wanted by British people. Fortunately the cost is minimal at just £333 per street² and savings in casualty costs recoup this many times over.

20's Plenty for Us campaign for default 20 mph limits where people live, without humps. It relies on community agreement to signed 20 mph limits backed up by light touch policing. Some roads will have higher speeds where merited. Limits are much more popular than zones with humps. Only 48% of respondents in the British Social Attitudes Survey were in favour or strongly in favour of having speed bumps to slow down traffic in residential streets; however 38% were against or strongly against the proposal.

5.4 million people in the UK live in authorities, like Portsmouth, Oxford, Warrington, Lancashire and Islington where Traffic authorities are creating more pleasant, quieter and safer residential streets. These places are using lower speeds to act as a foundation for active travel and increasing civic amenity.

Overall there were 22% fewer casualties in Portsmouth after 1,200 roads went 20 mph: drivers had 23% fewer and passengers 31% fewer after 2 years of wide area 20 mph limits. Elderly drivers had 50% fewer injuries and 40% fewer injured passengers³.

Rod King, Campaign Director of 20's Plenty for Us said:-

"This survey echoes what our local campaigns around the country are also finding whenever they speak to residents. Lower speeds in streets where people live is vital to a regeneration of communities and the creation of a better street environment. And it also echoes a growing call from Health and Transport Professionals that 20's Plenty Where People Live."

¹ 2010 British Social Attitudes Survey – Attitudes to transport <http://www.20splentyforus.org.uk/UsefulReports/BSocialAttitudes2010.pdf>

² Portsmouth's cost per street based on 1200 roads, was £333 per street.

³ DfT. Interim Evaluation of the Implementation of 20 mph Speed Limits in Portsmouth Final Report - Sep 2010

20's plenty for Us campaigns for 20mph speed limits without physical calming as the default in urban and residential areas

We welcome comments and feedback. Please contact us at :-

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