20’s Plenty for Us founder receives MBE from Her Majesty the Queen

Press Release November 2013

Rod King, the founder of 20’s Plenty for Us, received his MBE from the Queen at an investiture at Buckingham Palace on 28th November 2013

Few people in the UK could be unaware of the fact that 20mph limits are rapidly becoming the norm for residential streets and urban areas. Since 2007 when Rod King founded 20’s Plenty for Us as a voluntary organisation to support communities wanting lower speeds, some of our most iconic cities and areas have already made the decision to roll out 20mph limits to most residential roads. These include Portsmouth, Oxford, Cambridge, Brighton, Warrington, Liverpool, Bristol, Bath, Manchester, Birmingham, Lancashire, York, Newcastle, St Helens, Sefton, Oldham, Wigan, Rochdale, Middlesbrough, Edinburgh, Chichester, Bolton, Nottingham, as well as the London Boroughs of Camden, Islington, Waltham Forest, Haringey, Lambeth, Greenwich and the City of London. The total population of such authorities is in excess of 12m people.

20’s Plenty for Us has been a huge success in making the case for the benefits of lower speeds and now has 216 local campaigns. Its latest “Time for 20” campaign calls for the DfT to change the regulations so that repeater signs are no longer required on 20mph streets, but only on remaining 30mph roads.

Rod’s efforts as Campaign Director are still voluntary, but now complemented by dedicated resources in York and London.

Rod commented:-

To be honoured with an MBE for “Services to Road Safety” is significant not only as recognition of my personal efforts but also of the enormous progress which has been made in establishing lower speeds as the norm on community roads. We are moving from a past tradition of accepting that motor vehicles could dominate where people lived, worked and shopped into one where we share the streets more equitably and enable people to choose to walk or cycle without fear of fast traffic.

It acknowledges the aspiration and efforts of individuals, communities, councillors and council officers around the country who simply want to “make their places better places to be”. It really is “Time for 20” and this honour is very gratefully received. Perhaps most of all it signifies that 20’s Plenty for Us is much more than a campaign for change, but is a movement towards a more civilised way of sharing our streets.”

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