

Mayor's London Roads Task Force Supports 20mph Limits

Press Release July 2013

The Mayor's London Roads Task Force (RTF) have recognised that "speed limits play an important role where 'movement' and 'place' need to be better balanced, where there are high levels of pedestrian activity and where safety issues have been identified".



The Central Activities Zone (i.e. West End, The City and Southbank) is recommended to be area-wide 20mph. RTF favour a 20mph zone for central London (plus bridges), rolling out 20mph limits linked to key street types (e.g. high roads/high streets/city hubs) and average speed cameras. 20mph improves safety, attractiveness and ambience.

For inner London Boroughs, the RTF recommends creation of 20mph zones especially in residential areas and town centres. The report is at <http://www.tfl.gov.uk/corporate/projectsandschemes/28187.aspx>

Transport for London's (TfL) response supports 20mph as a lower speed environment. Following publication of the Safe Streets for London road safety action plan, TfL will work to make London's roads safer through lower traffic speeds wherever appropriate. TfL will

- "Continue to fund the roll-out of 20mph zones by boroughs, building on the 400 plus zones that have been funded by TfL and implemented by the boroughs to date"
- "Trial 20mph speed limits at specific locations on the TLRN, such as the Waterloo IMAX roundabout"
- "Be open to a range of speed limits on main roads in London, including 20mph. Limits relevant to key arterial routes are different to those on routes where people live, work and shop, and we will consider variable speed limits and 20mph limits where appropriate and in line with DfT guidance"
- "Work with London boroughs, such as Islington, Hackney, Camden and the City of London, which are all seeking to introduce borough-wide 20mph limits on borough roads and on parts of the TLRN, to understand the most effective means of implementation and compliance and the wider application in central London"
- TfL's delivery programme for the RTF to 2021 promises to continue funding 20mph zones in Boroughs and trial 20mph zones on TLRN (Red Routes). Islington has borough-wide 20mph limits and Lambeth is the latest to announce wide 20mph limits. 25% of London Boroughs are already committed to Total 20mph limits.

Jeremy Leach, 20's Plenty for Us London Co-ordinator said *"London has come a long way on slower speeds this year. The Task Force stresses the importance of 20mph to encourage Londoners to walk and cycle. TfL is increasingly positive in supporting 20mph. It would be great to see the Task Force's vision embraced by TfL and TfL to commit to 20mph on far more roads in urban London in its action plan."*

Rod King MBE 20's Plenty for Us Founder commented :- *"This is consistent with the developing view that 20mph is the right speed limit for most urban streets. Many of our most iconic cities have already adopted this initiative and it's great to see the Task Force recommending this for London too. It also highlights the need for our "It's Time For 20" call¹ for a review of signage requirements to enable it to be far cheaper for local authorities to implement 20mph limits."*

¹ See http://www.20splentyforus.org.uk/its_time_for_20.htm

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

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