



# is Plenty



**Consulting  
you on  
Birmingham's  
speed limits**

Information and  
questionnaire



# 20 MPH

## We need your views

Birmingham City Council is considering the introduction of 20mph speed limits on the city's roads to improve safety and reduce the number of accidents.

In this leaflet you will find a series of questions and answers that explain why we think this speed limit should be introduced on our roads and a short questionnaire that gives you a chance to let us know what you think about our proposals.

These plans will affect anyone who lives, works, shops, visits or travels in the city, so your views are important to us and will help us with our decision-making.

Please fill in the questionnaire, cut out and post back to us using the Freepost address given.

Thank you for your time.



## Questions & answers

### Why introduce 20mph speed limits?

The Government has recommended that local authorities consider 20mph speed limits in cities based on evidence that they make roads safer and reduce the number and severity of accidents.

Learning from experiences elsewhere, we expect the introduction of 20mph speed limits to reduce the number of accidents across the city. We also expect accidents to be less severe. Pedestrians are much less likely to be killed in accidents that occur at lower impact speeds too. For example, if a person is hit at 30mph, they have a 50 per cent chance of being killed, whereas at 20mph this is reduced to ten per cent.

Other benefits of 20mph limits include improving quality of life and encouraging more active forms of travel like walking and cycling, which help make people healthier.



### Which roads in Birmingham would be affected by the change?

The 20mph speed limits would be introduced mainly on residential roads, which account for around 90 per cent of the roads in the city. Other 'A' and 'B' roads would keep 30mph or 40mph speed limits but, in some cases, specific local circumstances might mean a 20mph speed limit would be considered – for example:

- busy high street shopping areas like A435 High Street in Kings Heath, Alum Rock Road, or A41 Soho Road; and
- around schools, leisure facilities, hospitals and public transport interchanges.

*Please turn to the back page for more questions and answers*



**20 is Plenty**

20 MPH

## Questions and answers continued

### Would the layout of roads look any different with a 20mph speed limit?

There would be updated traffic signs and road markings including:

- a pair of 20mph speed limit signs where the 20mph area starts; and
- smaller 20mph signs spaced at regular intervals within the area and/or 20mph road markings.

In some circumstances further measures may be considered, such as gateway features indicating the start of the 20mph limit and 'traffic calming' measures – like speed humps – however, these will only be considered where absolutely necessary.

### How will you get people to stick to the new speed limits?

Establishing 20mph as the maximum speed in residential areas will be more effective if most drivers support the idea, so changing attitudes to speed is the key to the scheme's success.

We will publicise the benefits of lower speeds with citywide campaigns.

### How long will the new limits take to introduce?

It would take between five and seven years to cover the whole city. A review of road safety data would be carried out so we can prioritise areas with the highest number of road accidents.

### How much will introducing the new speed limits cost?

The cost has been estimated at around £7 million in total, but this will more than pay for itself in savings from a reduced number of road accidents, which are estimated to cost the city around £5 million a year.

Some external funding (£0.8 million) has already been secured through a successful bid to the Government's City Cycle Ambition Grant, and we are looking to secure further funding to cover the costs. The funding will come from sources already allocated for transport improvements, so will not impact on other services the council provides.

**If you would like this information in an alternative format – for example Braille, large print or on CD – please call 0121 303 7439**







**is Plenty**

**Q1 Do you support the introduction of 20mph speed limits on the city's roads?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐

**Q2 Do you agree that this will make roads safer?**

Yes ☐ No ☐ Don't Know ☐

**Q3 Where do you think 20mph speed limits should be introduced? Tick any that apply.**

a) In residential areas ☐

b) In high streets and other shopping areas ☐

c) Near schools ☐

d) Near hospitals ☐

e) Near public transport hubs such as rail stations and bus interchanges ☐

Are there any other places where you think 20mph speed limits should be introduced? (Please write your suggestions below)





**is Plenty**

20 MPH

**Q4 Which of the following do you consider to be your MAIN mode of travel (tick one only)?**

- |                             |                          |            |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------------------------|
| In a car/van as a driver    | <input type="checkbox"/> | By train   | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| In a car/van as a passenger | <input type="checkbox"/> | By bicycle | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| By motorcycle or moped      | <input type="checkbox"/> | On foot    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| By bus                      | <input type="checkbox"/> | Taxi       | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| By tram (Metro)             | <input type="checkbox"/> |            |                          |

**Q5 And how often do you travel around the city...?  
Tick all boxes that apply**

	Three to five times per week	Once or twice per week	Less frequently than once per week	Never
In a car/van as a driver				
In a car/van as a passenger				
By motorcycle or moped				
By bus				
By tram (Metro)				
By train				
By bicycle				
On foot (even if only part of a journey eg walking to the bus stop)				
Taxi				



**is Plenty**

20 MPH

**Q6 Thinking about how your travel habits might change if 20mph speed limits were introduced, do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

a) As a driver I would drive more slowly

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

b) As a driver I would stick to the new limits

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

c) As a driver I would expect my journey to take longer

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

d) I would be more likely to walk for some journeys

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

e) I would feel safer walking

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

f) I would be more likely to cycle for some journeys

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐

g) I would feel safer cycling

Yes ☐ No ☐ Not applicable ☐



**20 is Plenty**

20 MPH

**Q7 Do you have any other comments about 20mph speed limits? Please tell us below.**

### About you

Please tick all that apply:

I live in Birmingham ☐

I work in Birmingham ☐

I run/own a business in Birmingham ☐

Are you:

Male ☐

Female ☐

Is your mobility affected by a disability?

Yes ☐

No ☐

Do you have children (aged 0-18)?

Yes ☐

No ☐

What is your age?

18 - 24 ☐

25 - 34 ☐

35 - 44 ☐

45 - 54 ☐

55 - 64 ☐

65 - 74 ☐

75+ ☐

Please write your postcode in here (required):

Is this (please tick):

Your home postcode ☐

Your business postcode ☐

**If you would like this questionnaire in an alternative format, please call 0121 303 7439**

Post this form back to us free of charge using the following Freepost address:  
Transportation Policy, FREEPOST NEA14876, PO Box 37, Birmingham, B4 7BR  
The closing date is 29 November 2013.