

Update on 20mph Default Speed Limit Rollout in the Vale of Glamorgan



Background

- The [Welsh 20mph Task Force Group Final Report \(July 2020\)](#) set out a case for introducing a default 20mph speed limit on **restricted roads*** across Wales.
- All 21 recommendations of the TFG [were accepted by WG](#)
- The main rationale behind changing the default speed limit – fewer road collisions, people feeling safer and benefit physical and mental well-being.
- 20mph will contribute to many other WG strategic priorities and [well-being goals](#).

*Restricted roads include street lights placed no more than 200 yards apart. They are usually located in residential and built-up areas with high pedestrian activity.

20mph Pilot Schemes

- January 2021: [8 First Phase settlements selected](#) (20mph Pilot Schemes)
- St Brides Major, Vale of Glamorgan
- First Phase has been used to test the processes and potential issues arising in advance of the National Rollout phase of the 20mph default speed limit on 17th September 2023

National Rollout Programme

- November 2020: [20mph Public attitude survey](#)
- July-October 2021: [Public Consultation to reduce default speed limit to 20mph](#)
- 12th July 2022: Vote on the main Statutory Instrument in the Senedd
- 17th March 2023: Welsh Government launched a public awareness campaign to inform the public on the new limits being introduced – signpost to websites and social media. [Introducing default 20mph speed limits & Safer at 20mph](#)
- Key messages - 20mph will help save lives and protect our communities; 20mph will affect most 30mph roads, which are generally residential or busy pedestrian streets.
- Local Authorities have been issued with [Stakeholder Communications Toolkits, Feb 2023](#) to support the campaign.
- **17th September 2023: Coming into Force date for the 20mph default speed limit in Wales**

Legislative Programme

- Welsh Ministers have powers to amend primary legislation to introduce a national, default speed limit of 20mph on restricted roads, as defined in [Section 82 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act \(RTRA\) 1984.](#)
- Default speed limit includes 'Restricted' roads only, i.e. those with streetlights placed no more than 200 yards apart.
- **Note:** Roads that are currently 40mph (or above) are out of scope for the 20mph National Rollout Programme. Any changes required will be covered under the proposed revision of [Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales Guidance](#)

Exceptions Criteria

- Highway authorities can set exceptions to 20mph speed limits on A & B Class restricted roads.
- WG Guidance: Setting exceptions to the 20mph default speed limit for restricted roads.
- Setting exceptions involves keeping the road at 30mph rather than it defaulting to 20mph in accordance with WG Legislation.
- <https://gov.wales/setting-exceptions-20mph-default-speed-limit-restricted-roads>

Enforcement of 20mph

- Within the existing First Phase settlements both the Police and GoSafe have employed a number of enforcement and educational tactics that have been proportionate in response to the speed data.
- The police will continue to work in partnership working with LAs, road safety practitioners and the public.
- Police will engage with LAs to identify and target highest risk roads for enforcement after 17th of September.
- Police will review the site adoption process to ensure enforcement of 20mph is appropriate and proportionate.
- Police to review staffing, equipment, and fleet capabilities to effectively respond to complaints and concerns in communities.
- Engagement and education in addition to enforcement through Fire and Rescue to continue at roadside.
- Promote Community Speed Watch – empowering communities to engage with speeding motorists.

Implications for the Vale

- The Guidance for the Exceptions ONLY apply to A and B classified (Main) roads. i.e. A48 B4524 etc.
- Exception mapping presented in November 2022 when numerous errors were identified.
- Vale worked with TfW to address errors and a new exception map produced.
- Further presentation provided in May 2023 with updated mapping.
- Exception map now published on [Data Map Wales](#) .

Vale Implementation Programme

- Design of signs and road markings for new 20mph default speed limit complete.
- Work to change signs and road markings commenced and will continue beyond 17th September.
- Publication of TRO for Exception maps published on 22 June 2023 - 28 day public notice for objections / comments.
- Exception map now live on [Data Map Wales](#).
- Full details of proposed TRO on the Vale's [website](#) where schedule and plans can be viewed .
- Any objections will be reported to Cabinet for consideration.
- If no objections received the TROs can be implemented without Cabinet report.

Budget Position

- WG funding award last FY 2022/23 to value £237,331 fully committed – signs ordered, signposts installation and removal of road markings commenced.
- Award of WG grant for implementation of 20mph default speed limit in FY 2023/24 up to £1.59M.

Useful Links

[Introducing default 20mph speed limits](#)

[Introducing 20mph speed limits: frequently asked questions](#)

<https://gov.wales/setting-exceptions-20mph-default-speed-limit-restricted-roads>

[Roads affected by changes to the speed limit on restricted roads: user guide | GOV.WALES](#)

Questions

