

## **AGENDA ITEM 21F**

This week is UN Global Road Safety Week. At the heart of this year's road safety week is the message that 'Low speed streets save lives and are at the heart of any community. 20 mph speed limits where people and traffic mix make for streets that are healthy, green and liveable, in other words, streets for life'.

We know that many Town Clerks receive complaints of speeding traffic and I am sure that it has been the subject of many Council debates. This week we're calling on policymakers to act for low speed streets worldwide, limiting speeds to 20 mph (30 km/h) where people walk, live and play and *20's plenty for Cornwall* would like your Council to join us. *20's plenty for Cornwall* is a local campaign group allied to the UK national campaign, *20's plenty for us*.

The Government is encouraging local councils to introduce 20 mph schemes into residential streets and other roads where cycle and pedestrian traffic is high, such as around schools, shops and parks but has decided not to introduce a nation wide default limit as has been decided in Wales, and recently in Spain, but to allow Councils to introduce limits where the communities ask for them. The 30mph default limit for the UK is no longer credible. Already more than 13 million people live in areas where there are 20mph limits. Why not throughout Cornwall?

In the past, Councils wanting to implement 20 mph schemes on groups of roads have had to do so in 'zones' which require traffic calming measures such as speed humps. 20 mph limits without traffic calming were only recommended on individual roads. In 2009 the Government announced plans to enable Councils to relax the criteria. This means that they can be introduced at a lower cost and with less inconvenience to local residents. [https://www.20splenty.org/signs\\_regs\\_changes](https://www.20splenty.org/signs_regs_changes)  
They could be introduced County wide.

With a new Council elected on 6 May now is the time to make a change for Cornwall. Now is the time to ask that Cornwall Council adopts 20mph as the default speed limit wherever people and traffic mix, that is in towns and villages throughout the County. That means streets and roads that are quieter, with cleaner air; roads that are less congested; roads that encourage people to leave the car on the drive and walk or cycle for those shorter journeys; and roads that are safer, for everyone. The figures compiled by the *20's plenty for us* Campaign (attached) show that reduced speed limits save lives and reduce costs through reduced police, ambulance and medical needs, as well as the reduced personal costs of less casualties. The costs are recovered in a very short period of time. Some argue that 20mh limits are not enforceable but the Police Commissioner for Devon & Cornwall supports the *20's plenty for Cornwall* campaign and enforcement is viable. Many police authorities have a significant number of cases of action taken.

We know that the last Cornwall Council undertook a review of the 20mph policy and officers are likely to be recommending that speed limits should be lowered in those communities that ask for them. *20's plenty for Cornwall* is asking for them and I am inviting all parish and town Councils in Cornwall to ask for them too.

**Please forward this email to your new Chair with the request that your Council:**

1. Writes to Cornwall Council to demand 20 mph limits on those roads within the parish where people and traffic mix;
2. Register with 20's plenty for us ( <http://www.20splenty.org/> ) to add your community to those who already support the campaign.
3. Join other campaigners in our monthly campaigners meeting on Zoom at 20:00 on the 20th.
4. Register at <https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYvfuCtpz0uHNfRtDXEzHVOFnUmG25h8qPt>

*Lead for 20's plenty for Cornwall*