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Building a Brighter Future  
for Injured People

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22 April 2026

By email only: [RoadsEngineeringServices@infrastructureni.gov.uk](mailto:RoadsEngineeringServices@infrastructureni.gov.uk)

Dear Sir/Madam,

### **Speed Limit Review 2026**

APIL welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Department for Infrastructure's consultation on the speed limit review. We are only responding to the proposal to introduce 20mph speed limits.

APIL supports the change of the default speed limit to 20mph on restricted roads. Lowering speeds to 20mph on residential and urban roads can reduce danger and make streets more attractive for walking and cycling. Research shows that where 20mph speed limits have been introduced, the number of deaths and serious injuries has been significantly reduced. For example, a Transport for London report concludes that the number of people killed or seriously injured reduced by 34% following the implementation of 20mph speed limits.<sup>1</sup>

The introduction of a default 20mph speed limit in Wales also resulted in a reduction of serious injuries and fatalities, as noted in the consultation document. We believe, however, that the assessment of roads that would apply to the reduction of speed needs to be carefully considered to build public support and ensure compliance with the new speed limits. Lessons should be learned from the initial issues with the implementation of the 20mph speed limit in Wales. The Department for Infrastructure should strive to produce appropriate guidance on whether roads qualify for the speed reduction. Campaigns for public awareness and education about the harm that speeding can cause, and the importance of the new policy will also be key to ensure compliance.

The new default speed limit must be enforced effectively, not only by using speed cameras but also by officers, to highlight the fact that any speed limit on any road is enforceable and requires compliance.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://tfl.gov.uk/info-for/media/press-releases/2025/may/powerful-new-long-term-tfl-research-shows-20mph-speed-limits-save-lives-on-london-s-roads>

We hope that our comments prove useful.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ana Ramos". The signature is written in a dark grey or black ink on a white background.

Ana Ramos

Legal Policy Officer