Ken Skates AS/MS Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros Drafnidiaeth a Gogledd Cymru Cabinet Secretary for North Wales and Transport Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-06-1419 Ein cyf/Our ref LW/00553/24

Jack Sargeant MS Chair - Petitions committee

12 June 2024

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 19 March regarding Petition P-06-1419 Revoke Wales' National Transport Delivery Plan 2022 to 2027.

The primary goal of the 20mph default policy is to save lives and reduce casualties on our roads. I want to build from the consensus that 20mph is the right speed limit near schools, hospitals, nurseries, community centres, play areas and in built-up residential areas.

However, we cannot escape the fact that 20mph has served to polarise some of the people and communities we serve. Against that backdrop, I felt we should take a step back and listen to the views of everyone involved.

To support the National Listening Programme I have instigated, we have published a webpage to help signpost people towards the relevant highway authority where they want to feedback on specific speed limits.

Through the drumbeat of regional meetings we are putting in place with the support of Transport for Wales, and with the help of the County Surveyors' Society Wales, we want to co-create a framework that supports highway authorities to make the right decisions for local roads – particularly when those calls are finely balanced.

That framework will be published before summer recess. After the summer break, we will continue to support highway authorities in the implementation phase of assessing roads, making of traffic regulation orders and finally in the implementation of changes on the ground. We acknowledge that it may take several months from September onwards before we see any changes on the ground.

My officials will then focus on prioritising guidance for other speed limits where people live. This will be published in April 2025 following stakeholder engagement which will include a 12-week public consultation.

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Further information, including an updated FAQ page, can be found at: Introducing 20mph speed limits: frequently asked questions | GOV.WALES 20mph speed limits | Sub-topic | GOV.WALES

With regards to the National Transport Delivery Plan (NTDP), as I highlighted in my <u>opening</u> <u>statement</u> to the Senedd at the end of April, the listening approach isn't limited to our work on speed limits. I'll continue to listen to people across Wales on transport issues that they face. Llwybr Newydd: The Wales Transport Strategy, does not look to outlaw any specific type of transportation, but looks to balance the need to provide sustainable transport alternatives for people's journeys whilst helping them make the journeys they wish to make.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Skates AS/MS

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