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-06-1412 Ein cyf/Our ref LW/00546/24

Jack Sargeant MS Chair - Petitions committee

12 June 2024

Dear Jack,

Thank you for your letter of 18 March regarding Petition P-06-1412 We want the Welsh Government to keep the excellent 20mph law.

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.

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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.

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.

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

Yours sincerely,

Ken Skates AS/MS

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