Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru

Pwyllgor yr Economi, Seilwaith a Sgiliau

National Assembly for Wales

Economy, Infrastructure and Skills Committee

Ken Skates AM, Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport

19 March 2018

Wales Act 2017 Transport Powers and transport scrutiny session

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

I wrote to you on 22 February setting out stakeholder evidence presented to the Committee in relation to the devolution of transport powers under the Wales Act 2017. Alongside the stakeholder views on devolved powers relating to bus registration, taxi and private hire vehicle licencing and ports policy and development, I mentioned that we had written to stakeholders on devolved powers relating to speed limits and would provide an update in due course.

We received written responses from the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (ROSPA); the four Welsh Police Forces and; GoSafe, all of which are included in full as an annex to this letter.

Stakeholders presented a cautious view which called for full consultation with the police and other key partners before introducing any changes to the current speed limit regime. Responses identified education and increasing driver awareness as key to ensuring compliance with speed limits.

However, evidence received from Living Streets as part of the Committee's Post Legislative scrutiny of the Active Travel (Wales) 2013 Act called for consideration to be given to reducing the speed limit in urban areas to 20MPH in order to

increase road safety and create an environment which better balances the needs of drivers with those of active travellers.

The Committee would welcome an update on what plans you have (if any) to use these new powers.

Best wishes,

Russell George

