

Appendix 5a: Responses received in relation to 20mph Zone Traffic Regulation Order

Comments of support

Received From OBJECTION/SUPPORT	Resident Comment
Resident of Addington Road  SUPPORT	"I would welcome the speed limit applied to the Park and Redlands area because I observe difficulties for pedestrians to cross roads, because I am a keen cyclist and I think it would improve the safety of the entire neighbourhood. In particular, I can see on a daily basis the risks for people and students who are trying to cross roads at the two roundabouts where Eastern Avenue meet Crescent Rd and Addington Rd".
Resident of College Road  SUPPORT	"I am writing to give my wholehearted support to these proposals to make the roads within the area of East Reading from Kendrick Road to Wokingham Rd a 20mph zone. This is an issue that the Redlands and University NAG has campaigned on for some time and will be well received by residents making the area safer for everyone and especially for children attending local schools and nurseries, as well as older residents"
Resident of Bulmershe Road  SUPPORT	"I would like to record my strong support for the proposed TRO restricting speed to 20mph in the Park/Redlands area".

Comments of objection

Received From OBJECTION/SUPPORT	Resident Comment
Resident of Morgan Road  OBJECTION	"I am of the opinion that the proposed East Reading 20mph zone is a complete waste of money. Fairly recently the council made an order to prevent loading and unloading on the North Side of Morgan Road during a part of the day and roadside signs were erected to cover the situation, but no one observes the signs and no one appears to enforce these restrictions. The same will apply to the 20mph restriction if imposed. It does not have my support and I have never been part of a consultation process.
Resident of Morgan Road  OBJECTION	"I am a resident of Morgan Road, one of the roads covered by the proposed. Firstly, the extremely large list of roads to have their speed limits dropped by 10 mph begs the question of the council's motivation for this change? Have there been many accidents recently? Has there been an increase in accidents across ALL of these roads? Have residents requested a drop in speed limit? Is this related to nearby schools? Is this a trial for Berkshire? However 30mph has long been held as a reasonable and safe speed limit for residential areas. I am fully in support of 20 mph (or less) areas around schools, traffic lights and zebra crossings to help children cross safely, but for all other times of day roads such as Kendrick clearly do not need to be 20 mph - have you ever seen the road? It's ridiculous to make that a 20 mph!! This seems to be the slowly shifting paranoid safety culture of the UK, as 60 mph speed limits are dropped to 50, 40's are dropped to 30's and 30's dropped to 20's. Now if an area has a history of accidents or complaints of speeding vehicles then DEFINITELY it should have it's limit reduced, but the blanket road coverage in TC2850/881 is just ridiculous"
Resident of Maidenhead  OBJECTION	"I would like to object to the above order, in particular to its application to Kendrick Road and Redlands Road. I am a regular visitor to this part of Reading. My reason for objecting is that the proposed speed limit is unrealistic and unjustified for these roads. These roads are not major through routes but can be used as such (for example, by buses). They are both fairly wide and have

	<p>houses set back. There is no obvious need for a speed limit reduction; in fact, they fit very much into the types of road suitable for a standard urban 30 mph speed limit.</p> <p>I note that a 20 mph zone is planned and therefore traffic calming measures are required by law. Kendrick Road and Redlands Road are wholly inappropriate for such measures. The character of these roads means that vulnerable road users are well separated from traffic, and there is little risk in this regard. In fact, I contend that traffic calming measures will actually be detrimental to road safety. I do not believe a “particular risk to vulnerable road users” has been identified for these roads. The only school on these two roads is The Abbey School, around which traffic naturally slows anyway when pupils are arriving and departing. I do not believe this justifies a permanent 24 hours a day, seven days a week 20 mph speed limits.</p> <p>Unrealistically low speed limits on these roads will lessen drivers' respect for 20 mph limits where they are justified, to the detriment of road safety generally”</p>
<p>Resident of Crescent Road</p> <p>OBJECTION</p>	<p>“We wish to to object to the Various Roads 20 mph Order 2014.</p> <p>Safety is a paramount concern for all road users. This proposal covers an extensive area. There may be the odd narrow street which could benefit from specific measures. Yet this does not mean an isolated issue should be addressed by a blanket response. On the whole road users respond to conditions responsibly within the parameters of a 30 mph limit. We believe therefore what is being proposed should be resisted as indiscriminate, arbitrary and excessive.</p> <p>As regular road users who have lived above since 1986, our principal concern is with the negligent use of roads by those 'cyclists who are unfamiliar with the Highway Code, and we would respectfully urge the Council to focus its efforts on addressing the 'cycle issue”.</p>
<p>Resident of Denbeigh Place</p> <p>OBJECTION</p>	<p>“I am concerned that Reading Borough Council sees reducing the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph as a universal solution to increase safety on and around the roads of Reading. I object to the proposed 20 mph speed limits when existing laws are regularly being broken and not well enforced. I think that current rules and laws need to be properly enforced on violators before enacting more restrictive rules and laws that negatively impact a wider population”</p>

Comments of support for St Peters Avenue to be included in any future 20mph consultation

Received From OBJECTION/SUPPORT	Resident Comment
Resident of St Peters Road	“I would like to add my support to St Peters Road being added to the 20 mph safe zone. We have a school at the top of the road, and a large amount of parked cars up and down the road - and we often have cars speeding up and down the road, it would be beneficial to include us in this zone”
Resident of St Peters Road	“I am a resident in St Peter's Road. I understand there has recently been a period of consultation about assigning certain roads in East Reading as 20mph zone, and that St Peter's Road was omitted. I am sure you are aware that the road is a 'rat-run' between Wokingham Road and Church Road, and furthermore that St Peter's school on Church Road is just opposite the end of St Peter's. As a result of these two factors, there is a combination of a lot of traffic, inappropriate parking at school times, and children usually accompanied by their parents. I think there is a very good case for St Peter's Road to be included in the 20mph zone for reasons of safety. Residential road + lots of traffic + bad parking + lots of children = recipe for disaster”

<p>Resident of St Peters Road</p>	<p>"I was surprised and disappointed to discover that St Peter's Road is not being included in the consultation for the 20mph zone in East Reading. The residents of St Peter's Road have raised the issues of speeding traffic, combined with parking problems, for some time now, and this is an ideal opportunity for the Council to do something positive about it.</p> <p>There are several reasons why St Peter's Road should be included. Firstly, there are pre-schools, nurseries and primary schools at both ends of this road, which means that there are many children walking up and down the road everyday. It is well known that keeping speeds down to 20 mph significantly decreases the risk of serious injury should a child be in an accident. Putting the speed limit at 20 mph would also encourage more parents to let their children walk to school, as fears about the dangers of traffic is one of the major reasons why parents drive their child to school instead of walking. This would improve the health of those children. It may also have an effect on the parking issues in St Peter's Road, such as pavement parking. Also, St Peter's Road is used as a "rat-run" by impatient drivers, who speed down the road regularly. Driving along the pavements to avoid parked cars is also a frequent occurrence, particularly at school drop off and pick up times, and during the rush hour. My own children have nearly been hit twice by drivers driving on the pavement. Putting the speed limit at 20mph would discourage the use of St Peter's Road as a cut through, and make it safer if people continue to use it in this way.</p>
<p>Resident of St Peters Road</p>	<p>I have read the proposal to make various roads in East Reading 20mph. I was disappointed to see that my own road, St Peter's road, along with others were not included. This is in spite of the fact that we have a primary school at each end of the road and we have petitioned the council recently to deal with traffic issues. We regularly see cars speeding down the road, regardless of the road humps"</p>