



Proposal to Introduce a 20 mph Speed Limit Trial in Dunbar – South of East Coast Railway Line

Results of Public Consultation – October 2012

November 2012

Background

Dunbar is a small town which has seen major expansion and a rising population in recent years, with the construction of around 700 houses, a new community centre, medical centre, primary school campus and large supermarket. As a result, there are many more people travelling around the town. Dunbar is a compact town where most of the local facilities are within walking or cycling distance for most residents.

The town has both a secondary school and a primary school, the latter of which is spread over two sites. At present, a high proportion of pupils walk, cycle, scoot or ripstick to school, but travel to all three campuses often involves busy roads and although there are a number of school crossing patrols, not all routes have supervised or formal crossing points. On some routes, parked cars, traffic levels and speeds make it more attractive to cycle on footpaths rather than the road. A meeting with local police in February 2012 confirmed cycling on footpaths as a problem for pedestrians in Dunbar.

Sustaining Dunbar is committed to making Dunbar a safer, more pleasant place to walk and cycle. The Dunbar Primary School Parent Council is eager to support this initiative and present 'safer route to school' options for parents/carers and children. Both groups are also keen to promote a healthy living lifestyle. Although the focus of this initiative is primarily on children, a reduction in speed will benefit all residents by encouraging more of us to make greater use of our streets for walking, cycling, playing or just socialising.

We recognise that 20 mph signs alone may not reduce speeds instantly and that changing driver behaviour is a long term aim, but evidence nationally indicates that signed only 20 mph speed limits may help to reduce average speeds and improve safety. Furthermore, attitudinal surveys indicate that 20 mph speed limits are generally popular with local residents and are perceived to work.

Public Engagement

20 mph speed limits are most successful where the local community and road users are in favour of the scheme and understand and respect what it is trying to achieve. However, fundamental support must also be gained from the local elected members and the Community Council. It was therefore decided to carry out a public consultation into the proposal to introduce a 20 mph speed limit trial in Dunbar – south of the East Coast Mainline Railway.

At the end of September 2012, information leaflets and questionnaires were delivered to every household located in the proposed trial area and consultees such as the emergency services and bus companies. A copy of the leaflet and questionnaire can be found in Appendix 1. Display Boards showing details of the proposal and background information were located at the Be Green Shop, 16 West Port, Dunbar from 24th to 30th September and at the Bleachingfield Centre from 2nd October to 31st October, which included the Community event on 6th October. The leaflet and questionnaire were also available on-line on the Sustaining Dunbar website. The public consultation was advertised in the local press and posters were displayed around the town. Links to the on-line consultation were included in local social media.

Results

A total of 243 responses were received during the public consultation period; 198 responses from households in the proposed trial area, 43 from households outside of the proposed trial area and 2 from other consultees.

Support for Trial

Q3. Do you support the proposal to introduce a trial 20 mph speed limit in the residential areas to the south of the East Coast Mainline Railway?

	Responses from Households in Trail Area	Responses from Households outwith Trial Area	Responses from Other Consultees	Total
Support	70% (139)	81% (35)	100% (2)	72% (176)
Do Not Support	24% (48)	16% (7)	0	23% (55)
Neutral	6% (11)	2% (1)	0	5% (12)

It can be seen that 70% of respondents from households in the proposed trail area supported the introduction of a trial 20 mph speed limit.

Support for Traffic Calming

Q5. This scheme does not include any additional traffic calming measures. However, would you be in favour of traffic calming, such as speed humps, in your road?

	Responses from Households in Trail Area	Responses from Households outwith Trial Area	Responses from Other Consultees	Total
Yes	37% (73)	53% (23)	0	40% (96)
No	56% (110)	34% (15)	0	51% (125)
No, Already Have Them	3% (6)	0	0	2% (6)
Already Have Them	2% (5)	2% (1)	0	2% (6)
Unsure	1% (2)	0	0	1% (2)
No Reply	1% (2)	9% (4)	100% (2)	3% (8)

Support for additional traffic calming measures, such as speed humps, varied from 37% in the proposed trial area to 53% in the older parts of Dunbar.

Predicted Effect of Trial on Driving Behaviour

Q6. Do you think the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit will change your driving behaviour?

	Responses from Households in Trail Area	Responses from Households outwith Trial Area	Responses from Other Consultees	Total
Yes	45% (90)	49% (21)	0	46% (111)
No	46% (92)	25% (11)	0	42% (103)
I Don't Drive	7% (13)	21% (9)	0	9% (22)
N/A or No Reply	2% (3)	5% (2)	100% (2)	3% (7)

Responses from households in the proposed trial area are split here, with no clear conclusion. In the older parts of the town, people think that a 20 mph speed limit would have an effect on their driving behaviour.

Predicted Effect of Trial on Safety Perception

Q7. Do you think the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit will make it safer for you and your family to walk or cycle more?

	Responses from Households in Trail Area	Responses from Households outwith Trial Area	Responses from Other Consultees	Total
Yes	68% (134)	84% (36)	0	70% (170)
No	29% (58)	12% (5)	0	26% (63)
Don't Know	2% (4)	0	0	2% (4)
N/A or No Reply	1% (2)	4% (2)	100% (2)	2% (6)

Respondents in all locations overwhelmingly thought that the introduction of a 20 mph speed limit would make it safer to walk and cycle. Almost 70% of respondents in the trial area agreed with this statement.

Q8. Do you think the trial is a good idea? Please give reasons for your answer.

Additional comments about the proposals were received from 215 households, 177 of whom were in the proposed trial area. The most frequent comments were:-

In Proposed Trial Area

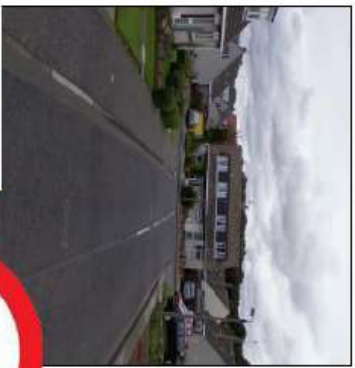
Comment	Number of Comments
Kellie Road should be included, main route to schools	32 comments
Will be safer for children	23 comments
Good idea	18 comments
Will be safer for everyone	11 comments
No existing accident problem	7 comments
Not a good idea, won't be enforced by police	7 comments
Put time and effort into enforcing existing limits and prosecuting offenders/ greater police presence	6 comments
There is a speeding problem on Brodie Road	5 comments
There is a speeding problem on Lochend Road	5 comments
Children today have no road sense, parents should teach them road safety and that roads are not playgrounds	5 comments
Need speed bumps Kellie Road	5 comments

In Other Areas

Comment	Number of Comments
Extend to the rest of Dunbar	7
Will improve safety of all	5



Proposal to introduce a 20 mph Speed Limit Trial in Dunbar – South of the East Coast Mainline Railway



Sustaining Dunbar and East Lothian Council want your views on the introduction of a trial 20 mph speed limit in some residential streets in Dunbar. This leaflet explains the proposals and includes a questionnaire for you to complete.



East Lothian Council and Sustaining Dunbar are committed to making Dunbar a safer, more pleasant place to walk and cycle. To work towards this, we would like your views on a proposal to introduce a trial 20 mph speed limit on residential roads in your area.

Why Dunbar?

Dunbar has seen major expansion in the past few years, with the construction of around 700 new houses, a community centre, medical centre, primary school campus and large supermarket. As a result, there are many more people travelling around the town.

Dunbar is a compact town where most of the local facilities are within walking or cycling distance for many residents. Over 80% of pupils walk, cycle or scoot to Dunbar Primary School which now has one of the highest levels of cycling in the country, and as these pupils move up to the Grammar School, so do the high levels of cycling. This has also encouraged more parents and adults to cycle.

Why 20 mph?

Lower traffic speeds will create a safer environment for people to walk and cycle to local facilities such as schools and shops. A 20 mph speed limit will reduce the severity of injuries if there is an accident:-

- 85% of pedestrians and cyclists would be killed if they were hit by a vehicle travelling at 40 mph.
- 45% of pedestrians and cyclists would be killed at 30 mph.
- 5% of pedestrians and cyclists would be killed at 20 mph.

(Source: Killing Speed and Saving Lives, Department for Transport)

What will the trial involve?

The trial will not include any new traffic calming measures. Instead, 20 mph signs will be located on the entry points of all roads covered by the trial. Repeater signs will be placed as necessary throughout the area to remind drivers of the new speed limit. 20 mph markings may also be painted on some roads to alert drivers to the reduced speed limit.



Consultation on the Proposal to introduce a 20 mph Speed Limit Trial in Dunbar – South of the East Coast Mainline Railway

Please indicate your views by answering the questions below and returning the form to the address at the end of this questionnaire

1. Your Details

Name:

Address:

Postcode:

(Please note that responses without address details will not be counted)

2. Your Household

How many people are there in your household?

Male	16 and under	17-25	26-45	46-65	Over 66
Female					

How many cars does your household have?

How many bikes does your household have?

3. Do you support the proposal to introduce a trial 20 mph speed limit in the residential areas to the south of the East Coast Mainline Railway?

Yes, I support the introduction of a trial 20 mph speed limit

I am neither against nor support the introduction of a trial 20 mph speed limit

No, I am against the introduction of a trial 20 mph speed limit

4. If you support the proposal, would you like a free wheeble bin sticker to show your support? Yes No

More questions overleaf.....

5. This scheme does not include any additional traffic calming measures. However, would you be in favour of traffic calming, such as speed humps, in your road? Yes No

6. Do you think the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit will change your driving behaviour? Yes No I don't drive

7. Do you think the introduction of the 20 mph speed limit will make it safer for you and your family to walk or cycle more? Yes No

8. Do you think the trial is a good idea? Please give reasons for your answer.

9. Additional Comments

10. If you are interested in being part of a local group to make your neighbourhood streets safer and more pleasant, please leave contact details below:-

Name.....

Phone Number or E-mail Address

Please return this form by **31st OCTOBER 2012** to:-

Sustaining Dunbar
16 West Port
Dunbar, EH42 1BU

OR
Bleachingfield Centre
Courtess Crescent
Dunbar, EH42 1DX

Proposal to Introduce a 20 mph Speed Limit trial in Dunbar – South of the East Coast Mainline Railway

East Lothian Council and Sustaining Dunbar are committed to making Dunbar a safer, more pleasant place to walk and cycle. To work towards this, we would like your views on a proposal to introduce a trial 20 mph speed limit on residential roads in the area south of the East Coast Mainline Railway.

An information board about 20 mph speed limits and the proposals for Dunbar is available at:-
**Bleachingfield Centre, Countess Crescent,
Dunbar
2nd October to 31st October**

If you live in the proposed trial area, you should have received an information leaflet and questionnaire about the trial. These are also available at the Bleachingfield Centre and Be Green Shop until 31st October. Your views are important; the trial will only go ahead if the majority of residents are in favour – **PLEASE COMPLETE YOUR QUESTIONNAIRE AND RETURN IT TO THE ADDRESS ON THE FORM BEFORE 31st OCTOBER.**

The questionnaire is also available on Sustaining Dunbar's website, visit www.sustainingdunbar.org.



www.eastlothian.gov.uk
www.sustainingdunbar.org.uk



Have you filled in your questionnaire yet? – Make your views count.



If you live south of the Railway Line in Dunbar, you should have received an information leaflet and questionnaire about the proposal to introduce a trial 20 mph speed limit in your area.

If you haven't received one, or have mislaid it, you can get another at Be Green, 16 West Port, Dunbar or the Bleachingfield Centre, Countess Crescent, Dunbar. The questionnaire is also available online at www.sustainingdunbar.org.

Please complete your questionnaire and return it to the address on the form before the 31st October. Make your views count.

