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Convener
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Dear Convener

National Speed Management Review - Public consultation launched on speed limit changes

I am writing to share details of the Scottish Government's ongoing work to ensure that speed limits across Scotland, including those for goods vehicles over 7.5 tonnes, are appropriate for our roads and contribute to reducing injury and death on our roads.

Scotland's Road Safety Framework to 2030 sets out a vision for Scotland to have the best road safety performance in the world by 2030 and an ambitious long-term goal where no one is seriously injured or killed on our roads by 2050. However, the number of fatal casualties in 2024 are tracking 21% above the same period in 2023.

The reasons behind this are varied, with speeding and driver frustration being a persistent factor in a number of injury collisions on Scotland's roads. It is therefore timely that Transport Scotland have undertaken a National Speed Management Review. This review seeks to ensure speed limits on Scotland's roads are appropriate and help contribute to a reduction in injury and death on our roads.

The review examined a range of approaches, including HGV-specific speed limits, drawing insights from both national and international case studies. This includes the impact of the 50 mph speed limit trial for HGVs on the A9 single carriageway sections between Perth and Inverness. Since this trial there has been improved driver behaviour on this section of the route, a greater compliance with speed limits and a reduction in deaths and serious injuries.

I can therefore announce that a public consultation on proposed changes to speed limits has launched and will be open until Wednesday 5 March 2025. It invites feedback on proposals to lower the national speed limit on single carriageway roads from 60 mph to 50 mph and to increase speed limits for goods vehicles over 7.5 tonnes on single-carriageways from 40 mph to 50 mph and dual carriageways from 50 mph to 60 mph. Analysis from the review

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indicates that these changes could significantly reduce injury collisions while maintaining journey times and enhancing journey time reliability.

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to participate in the consultation and share views on the proposed changes at:

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/consultation/national-speed-management-review-consultation/>

Yours sincerely,



FIONA HYSLOP
Cabinet Secretary for Transport

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