

# Summary of Responses

## REVIEW OF THE SPEED LIMITS POLICY

19 October 2009

### SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION DETAILS

Following the approval of the States to a Report and Proposition by Deputy Gorst and debated on 2 December 2008, the Minister for Transport and Technical Services appointed a Working Group *"to review the implementation, operation and suitability of the current Speed Limits Policy (P.1/2004) as approved by the States on 15th March 2005."*

The Working Group comprised the Connétable of St John, Graeme Butcher (Chairman), the Connétable of St Saviour, Peter Hanning and Deputies Ben Fox and Kevin Lewis.

As part of this review, the Working Group sought the views of the public by issuing a questionnaire, inviting written comments and also holding a public meeting on 6 July 2009 at St Lawrence Parish Hall.

### OVERVIEW OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

A total of 839 people completed the questionnaire either online or by hand and a further 58 people wrote into the department. In addition, 30 people attended the public meeting in St Lawrence. Of those completing the questionnaire, 439 (52%) completed it online and 400 sent their completed questionnaires into the department, which were then input onto the system to allow the results to be collated and the results computed.

The results from the questionnaire are attached at Appendix A (excluding the individual comments) but the key findings regarding speed limits can be summarised as follows:

(a) 66% of respondents wanted the current policy changed.

**Of those people answering the following specific questions:**

(b) more people wanted to maintain a maximum speed limit of 40mph than wanted it changed. In fact, there was almost an equal number of people wanting the maximum limit increased as wanted it decreased.

(c) more than half of people who responded (55%) wanted to keep the maximum speed in urban/built-up areas as 30mph.

(d) 83% of people answering wanted to retain a 20mph maximum speed in housing estates and distinct residential areas.

(e) 51% of people wanted the maximum speed limit in Green Lanes raised to 20mph whilst 31% wanted to see it retained at 15mph.

**Regarding accident prevention and road safety methods:**

(f) 62% of people supported the re-introduction of police motorcycle patrols.

(g) 55% wanted to see an increase in the number of random roving police camera speed checks at accident black spots.

(h) 79% supported the installation of more electronic 'smiley/grumpy' speed alert signs.

The questionnaire also allowed people to make comments and there were 574 individual comments made in the final 'free text' box. About 20% of these referred to specific locations on the Island and requesting a change in speed limits, but the issue of enforcement – or lack of enforcement – also came out strongly with over a quarter of respondents mentioning this issue. A typical comment made was that 'there's no point in changing speed limits if they are not enforced'

Turning to the 58 letters received by TTS, almost half were specific to certain areas, Parishes or roads. In particular, a third were from residents of St Clements mainly supporting the view that the maximum speed limit should be

30mph throughout the Parish although five respondents opposed any reduction. The remaining comments broadly echoed the views brought out in the questionnaires.

At the public meeting, 24 people spoke about their views and, once again, the lack of enforcement of the current speed limits was raised as well as people wanting a lower limit in specific areas. The 'smiley/grumpy' signs were also fully supported as was the use of non static speed cameras.

### **MINISTER'S RESPONSE TO CONSULTATION**

The outcome from the consultation has been incorporated into a report of the Working Group which the Minister for Transport and Technical Services will present to the States shortly.

