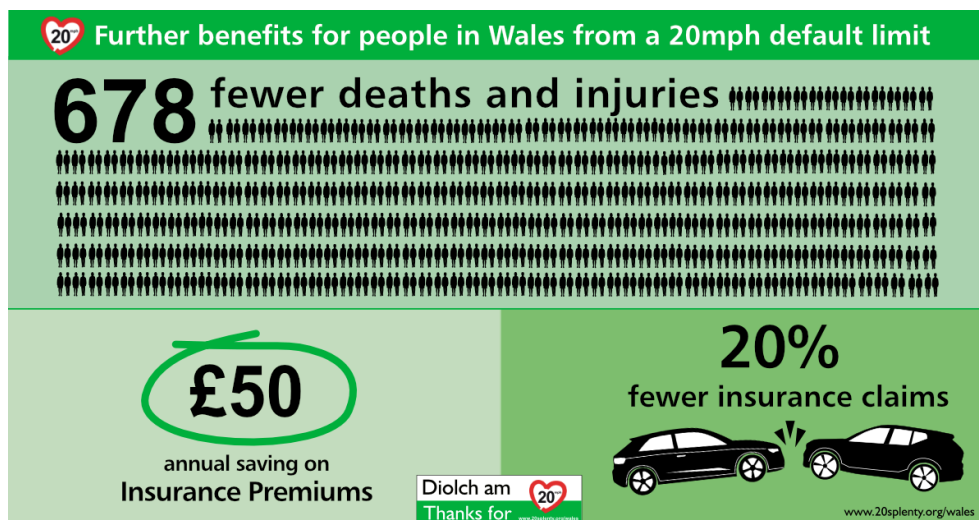




20's Plenty E-News – Spring 2025

In this E-News ...

- Latest Wales data shows unprecedented speed and casualty reductions •
 - 20's Plenty deliver another successful webinar •
 - New conference and webinar dates for your diary •



Latest Speed and Casualty data from Wales

You might have already seen the latest data released by the Welsh Government that shows unprecedented reductions in casualties and collisions following the introduction of the national default 20mph speed limit in Wales in September 2023. Lower speeds have led to 678 (28%) fewer casualties on 20/30mph roads in the first year of the national default speed limit of 20mph, compared with the previous year, including 10 fewer deaths.

Lower than expected vehicle damage claims have also enabled esure Insurance Group to reduce their premiums for Welsh drivers, and the company is now committed to reducing policy prices for customers within 3 months of identifying a new 20mph area in the rest of the UK.

You can read our [briefing](#) for more information.

20's Plenty Webinar "Reviewing the latest data from Wales and beyond" great success

The latest in our series of webinars on **Delivering 20mph** took place on **26 February**, chaired by Adrian Berendt and hosted by Landor. A record number of 776 people registered for the event, with 531 attending on the day. The feedback we have received on the webinar has been extremely positive, with every attendee saying that the event met their expectations and 60% saying that it exceeded their expectations.

Themes explored during the webinar were:

- **The positive impact of 20mph limits on road safety** with presentations by **Phil Jones**, *PJA Ltd* concentrating on the default roll out in Wales, and **Rod King MBE** looking at the broader picture across the UK.
- **The increasing adoption of 20mph limits across the UK** with presentation by **Richard Owen** from data analysts *Agilysis*
- **The financial benefits for drivers** were discussed by **Rob Clarke** from motor insurers *esure*. He talked about the reductions in insurance premiums that are made possible in areas where 20mph is the default due to the reductions in collision numbers and damage to vehicles.
- **Enforcement and Public Support** were two of the subjects of the panel discussion that followed the presentations.



If you didn't manage to watch the live webinar, a recording of the whole event can be viewed [here](#).

200 questions were asked during the event. You can read our answers to the most frequently asked questions [here](#).

Are many councils making exceptions to the national 20mph default in Wales?

Actually very few! In total, we estimate that around 3% of restricted roads (those with street lights) will be excepted up to 30mph. While local councils in Wales have (and have always had) the ability to set a local speed limit, few exceptions are being made to the national 20mph default, and of these many are just correcting exceptions previously omitted. For example:

- In Monmouthshire, where residents flagged up 143 such roads for a 30mph limit Monmouthshire Council has rejected them all. Catrin Maby, the council's cabinet member for climate change and the environment, said: "The council's top priority is the safety of all our residents and visitors." Read the news article [here](#).
- Cardiff council reviewed requests for 192 roads and will increase the speed limit on just 4. Read the article [here](#).
- Wrexham Council is an outlier – it's making exceptions on about 50 roads, but originally made NO exceptions to the 20mph national default and many new exceptions are correcting what could have been excepted in 2023.

National News

A minister has rejected calls for the Government to tell councils in England to lower speed limits outside schools to 20mph. Roads Minister, Lilian Greenwood, said councils already have the power to change speed restrictions outside schools in response to a plea from an MP [following the death of a schoolboy in Cheshire](#) who was hit by a car.

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News from London

[Newham Council has completed the borough-wide 20mph rollout](#), a key milestone in the borough's commitment to road safety and healthier lifestyles for residents, workers, and visitors.

News from around the British Isles

Port St Mary has become the first village on the **Isle of Man** to implement a 20mph speed limit on all residential roads. 20mph limits are also being introduced as part of the Department of Infrastructure initiative across the whole island. The DOI has stated that no new traffic calming measures will be implemented, instead it is focussing on installing new signage, raising public awareness and "*encouraging compliance through behaviour change*".

You can read the news article [here](#)

As part of its review of national speed limits, **Ireland** has reduced the national default on local rural roads to 60km/h from 7 February. The next planned change to national speed limits will be the limit for urban areas will reduce from 50km/h to 30km/h, over the course of 2025. See article [here](#).

Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council has launched a public consultation for a proposed 20mph zone in the [Winton](#) area of Bournemouth. Around seventy 20mph zones already exist in the area and the council says that evidence from their road safety data over a ten-year period shows there was on average a 40% reduction in casualty collisions in these areas.

Westmorland and Furness Council has announced twenty zones with 20mph speed limits are set to be introduced in [South Cumbria](#) in 2025 following a consultation process. The schemes will focus on built-up towns and villages where the current maximum speed limit is 40mph.

A number of proposed 20mph schemes in towns across **Hertfordshire** have been out to consultation recently in towns including **Bishops Stortford**, **Baldock** and **Stevenage**.

Meanwhile in [Wiltshire](#), plans are under consideration to lower the speed limit on over a dozen Wiltshire roads to 20mph. Wiltshire Council plans to implement lower limits on several routes around the village of Aldbourne, near Swindon and Marlborough.

Even [North Yorkshire](#) is dragging itself (kicking and screaming) into the 21st Century.

Some dates for your diary ...

- Our next in-person event is the joint **National Vision Zero/20's Plenty Conference** on **Thursday 15 May** at the **Titanic Hotel, Liverpool**, hosted by Landor Links Live. You can find more details [here](#)
- The third in our series of '**Delivering 20**' webinars will be on **Tuesday 24 June** and feature presentations and discussion on the Chartered Institution of Highways & Transportation (CIHT) report *Progressing the UK towards Safe System Implementation* which you can read [here](#) (nb: sign up is required to read report).

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In the Media

There's an excellent [Guardian article](#) by **Peter Walker** questioning why there is even a debate about 20mph when the evidence is so clear.

It's worth all campaigners listening to this edition of Thomas Ableman's [Freewheeling podcast with Lee Waters, MS](#) talking about why change is so difficult.

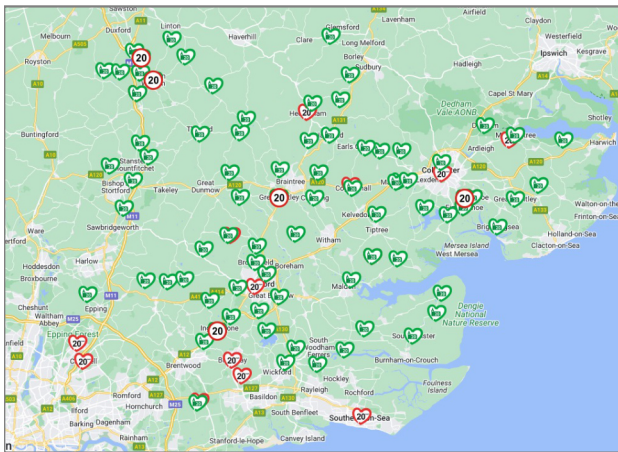
There is also a brilliant Transport for London Facebook reel about the benefits of 20mph [here](#).

Campaigner News & Information

There has been a recent surge in interest in 20mph speed limits, perhaps fuelled by the unprecedented data coming out of Wales? Our last 20th of the month webinar attracted over 100 registrations. Despite local elections being paused in local authorities who have been approved for the fast-track change to unitary authorities, county elections are still going ahead in many local authorities in May. This is a key opportunity to get more pro-20mph Highway Authority councillors. We're here to help you do that...

We have various campaign resources available on our website, including graphics, images, stickers, briefings and articles all available on the [20's Plenty website](#).

Please let us know if you've been featured on local (or national) TV, radio or in print. We can help with media training. Watch the 15 min media training by Ian Conlan, 20's Plenty Campaigner of 2023 winner, at the 20's Plenty for North Yorkshire YouTube [here](#) on how to write a press release.



County campaigns work well, if you would like help to start one, ask adrian.b@20splenty.org for help or watch this [briefing and video](#). 500+ UK Parish Councils support 20's Plenty. Share resources, like a list of supporting parish councils using a Google account and create campaign maps such as this one from Essex.

Join our private [Campaigner Facebook Group](#). A vibrant, interactive way to find out how to win.



We are now on **Bluesky** which is gaining ground and popularity as a less toxic alternative to X. You can follow us at [@20splenty.bsky](#).

Thanks for all you do. Ask us anything, anytime.

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