



Ms L. Spence
Aberdeen City Council
Environment & Infrastructure Services
St Nicholas House
Broad Street
ABERDEEN
Friday, 9th June 2004

Your ref: HM/EK/LS/TM/1/59

Dear Sirs,

20 MPH AROUND SCHOOLS, PROPOSED PART-TIME MANDATORY ZONES
RESPONSE TO STATUTORY CONSULTATION

Thank you for your letter of 18 June seeking the views of Aberdeen Cycle Forum on the above. The Forum discussed the matter at its meeting on 29 June. We would now respond as follows:

We support the introduction of 20-mph zones around schools and welcome the general benefits that this is likely to have in reducing vehicle speeds and increasing road safety for all road users and especially school children.

Due to the limited extent of the zones however, it is not clear that these restrictions alone will be adequate to encourage significantly higher numbers of children to cycle to school.

We note that in the second Citizen's Panel Questionnaire, cycling accounted for only 1% of travel to and from schools. Car use accounted for almost 20%, indicating that there remains much scope to encourage healthier and sustainable travel for school children.

We also note that a very high proportion (93%) of respondents favoured 20mph zones around schools. High proportions also supported the idea of cycle lanes to schools (60%) and car free zones around schools (61%) suggesting that many more journeys to school would be made by bike if suitable measures were put in place.

We believe this demonstrates that the current proposal to introduce 20 mph zones will receive strong public support, but also that the Council should continue to make additional infrastructure improvements to encourage cycling whenever possible.

We do not wish to make comments on the detail of the 28 individual zones.

Yours faithfully,

Aberdeen Cycle Forum.