

Radyr & Morganstown Community Council Cyngor Cymuned Radur a Threforgan

The Old Church Rooms Park Road Radyr Cardiff CF15 8DF

Thank you for your letter dated XXX

The responsibility for introducing a 20mph zone across Radyr and Morganstown rests with Cardiff Council. The Community Council does not have any powers which would enable it to do so.

Cardiff Council's proposals for a 20mph zone reflect current Welsh Government policy, which is to make this speed limit the default in urban areas across Wales. Cardiff Council will publish a draft Traffic Regulation Order before any 20mph zone is introduced. This will give you an opportunity to object to the proposal during the statutory process.

I understand that one of the main drivers for this policy is the fact that a person hit by a car travelling at 20mph is much less likely to be killed than a person hit by a car travelling at 30mph.

The policy is also aimed at making urban areas more liveable - taking the focus away from the need to make motoring as convenient as possible - to promoting the needs and safety of other public space users, including pedestrians and cyclists. This, in turn, is aimed at promoting active travel, thereby reducing the use of cars for short journeys - and encouraging people to walk or cycle, with the health benefits that doing so will bring.

Cardiff Council is also seeking to reduce the volume of traffic entering Cardiff (including Radyr) from outside the city. Some of the strategies to be adopted to achieve this aim will include:

- two new park and ride facilities (one near Junction 33 of the M4 and one just off the A470)
- more trains with more carriages on the Valleys Line

• deliberately making driving along Radyr's main road less attractive, with the construction of more zebra crossings - and tabling every such crossing.

If they succeed with this strategy, it could lead to fewer cars travelling through Radyr, which would help reduce pollution levels. Countering this, of course, would be the additional traffic generated by the Plasdwr development, which could lead to more cars travelling through Radyr towards the A470.

Cardiff Council has, however, agreed to monitor pollution levels from now on, through the period of changing the road - and into the future. This will enable them to measure the impact of these changes on air quality.

Also, we can expect fewer petrol and diesel cars on our roads, in future - as the UK Government and car manufactures work to replace them with electric cars. In addition, Grant Schapps hinted at the Conservative Party conference that a ban on the sale of petrol and diesel cars could be introduced in 2035.

These are openly anti-car and anti-pollution policies - and I don't see any government apologising for them in the near future.

Although the data for the impact on pollution of introducing 20mph zones can be difficult to agree on (the internet has documents supporting a wide range of views about this), the safety of pedestrians and prioritising public spaces for people, rather than cars, is a policy supported by the community council.

To this end, we have been invited by Cardiff Council to develop proposals for making the Station Road area a more attractive place for residents to meet, shop and socialise. We will publish our ideas in the near future.

With best wishes

Huw Jones Chair, Radyr & Morganstown Community Council