15th February 2011

Scrutiny Office Morier House Halkett Place St Helier JE1 1DD RECENTED 18 FEB 2011

Dear Sirs

Review of Speed Limit Policy

I would like to comment on the review of speed limit proposals as follows:

a) 30 mph limit in built up areas and on all roads without a centre line

A blanket approach to this proposal is probably not appropriate. Whilst it is desirable in many such cases to bring down the limit from 40 mph to 30 mph, there are some stretches of road falling into this definition, i.e. "main roads" where there are no real issues relating to pedestrians, schools etc., for which speeds up to 40 mph are quite acceptable. Bringing down speed limits to 30 mph on such roads could unduly slow down the flow of traffic, adding to congestion at peak times, and possibly encourage instances of dangerous (if illegal) overtaking. For such "main roads", this proposal should be considered on a case-by-case basis and the 40 mph limit retained where that is more suitable for the road stretch in question.

b) Increasing Green Lanes limit from 15 mph to 20 mph

I share the view of Tourism and others that the existing 15 mph limit should be retained for Green Lanes. Green Lanes were specifically designated to be zones which pedestrians, cyclists etc could enjoy without needing to be concerned by motor traffic. They are usually narrow and are in areas of beauty, so that many who use them do so for appreciation of that rather than simply as a means of getting from A to B. It is appropriate that motor traffic should be slowed significantly for these lanes, which are of course also not on main traffic routes.

It is accepted that the appeal of green lanes, along with the island's countryside and coastal walks, help to attract a significant proportion of Jersey's holiday visitors. Many residents also enjoy the tranquility and beauty they provide, helped in no small measure by the current 15 mph speed limit. This should not be put at risk by any raising of the Green Lanes limit, which would not only increase the speed of motor vehicles on these lanes, but quite likely raise the volume of motor traffic on them too.

Thank you for considering my comments on these proposals.

Yours faithfully

Paul St John Turner