Dear Sirs

I am writing with regard to the up coming debate on speed limits in Jersey, and in particular the Green Lanes. I do not believe that the speed limit on Jersey's Green Lanes should be increased for a number of reasons.

Firstly the majority of people already drive at a minimum of 20 MPH in the Green Lanes, and if the limit were raised to 20 they would simply drive at 25 or 30MPH.

Secondly Green Lanes were not introduced for the benefit of the motorist, but for the benefit of walkers, joggers, cyclists, the elderly, children, dog walkers, hikers, horse riders and tourists.

A lot has been made of the idea that it as difficult to maintain a speed of 15MPH in a modern car, however countless numbers of modern cars appear perfectly capable of maintaining a speed of 5MPH for mile after mile at the first sight of a few flakes of snow.

For motorists who do not wish to drive at this speed most Green Lanes can be easily avoided in favour of larger thoroughfares, and we should not be encouraging the use of our beautiful country lanes as rat runs. Also many of these lanes are not wide enough to let two cars pass let alone the larger commercial vehicles which would be encouraged to use them if the limits were increased.

I live on a Green Lane and on any given day we have elderly people walking their dogs, children playing, cyclists, people with prams and pushchairs, joggers and horse riders. During the summer months we also have large groups of hikers visiting the Island from all over the world and non of these activities would be so enjoyable (or indeed safe) if the speed limit were to be raised.

We are already seeing a number of people flouting the law and driving at excessive speed in the lanes and I have been on the receiving end of verbal abuse and threats when I have asked people to slow down. This situation can only get worse if the speed limits are increased. If anything I believe we should be looking to increase the network of green lanes.

Yours faithfully

Jane Monins