

Apply for a 20mph speed limit or zone

Residential areas only

Please read through all the guidance notes before deciding to apply for either a 20mph zone in a residential area or a 20mph limit on a particular residential street. Read these instructions carefully so that all the details we need are included and your application is not delayed. If you have any questions please contact the team by email to TROteam@milton-keynes.gov.uk or call 01908 252353.

Before we can assess your application you must demonstrate community support for the 20mph speed limit or 20mph zone. This is an essential part of the criteria when considering which schemes will be implemented.

The most effective way to show community support is to contact every property along the affected length of road and ask them to show their support by signing a petition.

To help you gather all the information you need to give us on your petition, we've created a simple petition template for you which can be downloaded from the Road, Redways and Footways section on our website at: www.milton-keynes.gov.uk.

You can also create an online version yourself if you wish.

20mph Speed Zone

This option will cover an area rather than a section of road. If you want to cover a section of road you should chose the speed limit option.

Criteria:

- 20mph zones use traffic calming measures to reduce the adverse impact of motor vehicles on built up areas. Typically zones cover between 1km and 25km of roads. The principle is that the traffic calming slows vehicles down to speeds below the limit, and in this way the zone becomes 'self-enforcing'. Speed humps, chicanes, road narrowing's, planting and other measures can be introduced to both physically and visually reinforce the nature of the road.
- Traffic calming programmes can incorporate a wide range of measures designed to work in partnership to reduce speeds and improve the overall environment, and in effect this means there can be significant differences between schemes.



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20mph Speed Limit

This option will cover a section of road rather than an area. If you want to cover an area you should choose the zone option.

Criteria:

- The minimum recommended length is 400m to avoid too many changes of speed limit along the route.
- It is appropriate for a single or possibly two roads. Whereas zones are appropriate for wider areas.
- 20mph speed limits can be introduced through a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which requires a formal statutory consultation process which MK Council will undertake if they decide to progress this and it is subject to a statutory objection period.
- The speed limit when implemented would be supported by upright signs at either end of the limit, maybe some additional ones over the length of the road and road markings with 20 painted inside a roundel.
- Historically this is used where vehicle speeds are already relatively low and therefore compliance is easy to achieve because average speeds are already below 24mph. Signing alone will only have a minimal impact on vehicle speeds. The layout and use of the road must also give the clear impression that a 20mph speed or below is the most appropriate.

How to apply

To apply for a 20mph speed limit or zone, please email the TRO Team at TROteam@milton-keynes.gov.uk.

You should include the following information:

- Applicant contact details (name, address, telephone, email)
- The road or zone you are applying for (if it is a zone then please list the roads within the zone and/or a map showing the area)
- The reason for the 20mph speed limit or zone
- Petition (to demonstrate community support).

The closing date for all applications this year is 31 August.

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What happens next...

All applications received before the deadline will be investigated and assessed by considering a few factors including speed data, accident data (up to 3 years), the level of community support and the environment in which the road runs through.

The applications likely to be given the highest priority will most likely meet the following criteria:

- There has been more than 4 accidents in the past 3 years;
- Community support is over 70%;
- Average speeds are below 24mph;
- There is a high level of environmental risks (i.e. schools, shops, walking and cycling).

Once an application has been assessed it will be considered as part of the next available programme. The number of schemes which can be introduced in any one year will depend on available funding.

The closing date for any applications each year is the last working day in August. Any applications made after this date will not be considered.

