



**HEDDLU
GOGLEDD CYMRU
NORTH WALES
POLICE**

Response Date:21/04/2026

2026/323 - 20 mph speed limit

In response to your recent request for information regarding;

You are aware that a default 20 mph speed limit has been introduced in Wales replacing the previous limit of 30mph. These changes were introduced on Welsh Government advice by Local Authorities.

Since the initial implementation revised guidelines have been issued to revert some of the 20 limits back to 30mph.

Throughout this process there has only been a reference to improving road safety but this can only be possible in situations where excessive speed was the principal contributing factor, information which should be obtained from the attending Officers Accident Report book.

My concern relates to the changes which have or are being proposed in Flintshire. Would you therefore please provide me with the following information as a Freedom of Information request, covering the three year period before the default 20 was introduced and after its implementation:-

- 1. The number of injury accidents within 30 mph areas before the 20 limits where excessive speed was recorded as the prime contributing factor.**

Between 17/09/2020 and 16/09/2023 – 5 serious injury collisions and 9 slight injury collisions were recorded in Flintshire on 30 mph roads where exceeding the speed limit was recorded as a contributory factor. Where exceeding the speed limit was recorded as the prime contributory factor there was 1 serious injury collision.

- 2. The number of injury accidents within the new 20 mph areas where speed was recorded as the main factor and**

Between 17/09/2023 and 31/12/2025 - 3 serious injury collisions were recorded in Flintshire on 20 mph roads where exceeding the speed limit was recorded as a contributory factor. Where exceeding the speed limit was recorded as the prime contributory factor there were zero injury collisions. Please note, these are the results for all 20 mph speed limits, not just new ones. We cannot differentiate between the two options on our mapping.

- 3. The number of injury accidents in those areas where the 20mph limits have been changed back to 30mph.**

Unable to provide an answer as some local authorities are still making these changes. We do not have access to a map where we can identify roads which have changed back to a 30 limit.

Please note, the data is provisional and subject to change.

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Police Headquarters,
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I am seeking this advice after being advised by the Local Council and Welsh Government that it is only the Police that hold this information.

- 4. Do the Police still provide periodically to Local Authorities copies of all injury/non injury accidents , which contain a brief description of each, road conditions etc and the principal contributory cause, (in the view of the attending officer?.**

North Wales Police only provide collision stats to the Welsh Gov who publish them.

- 5. As the sole responsible enforcement Agency do Local Authorities formally consult the Police for your views, on all new, or proposed changes to existing speed limits, prior to public consultation and again in the event of objections being received?**

Yes.

The LA are required to formally consult with the police on all new or proposed changes to existing speed limits before public consultation.

6. Do North Wales Police in your structure still have specific traffic officers, reporting to Chief Inspectors etc

Yes we do still have a dedicated Roads Crime Unit, consisting of PC 's, Sgts, and Insp, CI and Supt within the command chain.

If these no longer take place how can you be assured that any changes are justified, meet the necessary national regulations and are justified?

N/A.

THIS INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO A REQUEST
UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000, AND IS CORRECT AS AT 20/04/2026