



An Roinn Iompair
Turasóireachta agus Spóirt

Department of Transport,
Tourism and Sport

Príomh Oifig
44 Sráid Chill Dara, Baile Átha Cliath 2, Éire.

Head Office
44 Kildare Street, Dublin 2, Ireland.

Lo-Call 1890-443311 +353-1-670 7444
+353-1-670 9633 www.dttas.ie

To Director of Services

17th February 2016

Circular RSD 1/2016

Guidelines for Setting and Managing of Speed Limits in Ireland (2015)

A Chara,

I refer to Circulars RSD 1, 2 (Speed Limits) and 3 (Traffic Signs) of 2015. In support of these circulars, as well as the Traffic Signs Manual and the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland, please find attached two supporting Advice Notes that cover the following topics: -

- TSAN-2016-01 – The Rural Speed Limit Sign
- TSAN-2016-02 – Slow Zones

These advice notes provide more detailed guidance together with a range of supporting information regarding the use and deployment of the Rural Speed Limit Sign as well as Slow Zones. They are to be followed by Road Authorities as well as those that are involved in Setting and Managing Speed Limits.

Both Advice notes are available on the Departments websites: - www.dttas.ie; www.speedlimits.ie and www.trafficsigns.ie. Queries regarding these documents may be made to speedlimits@dtas.ie and trafficsigns@dtas.ie.

Please note that further Advice notes may be published by the Department from time to time.

Prior to the Local Government Reform Act 2014

"Built up area" is defined in the Road Traffic Act 2004 as "*the area of a city, a borough or a town within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2001*" and section 5 of the 2004 Act states that a speed limit of 50 kilometres per hour shall apply in respect of all public roads other than a motorway in built up areas.

Former Town Councils

The Department wishes to advise that notwithstanding the abolishment of the Town Councils as part of the 2014 Local Government Reform Act 2014 (NO1 of 2014) the position of a 'Built up area' for the purposes of Speed Limits is unaltered.

1. Section 10 of the 2001 Act (before it was amended by the Local Government Reform Act 2014) provided that the State was divided into Counties and Cities and the purpose of Section 10 was to establish Local Government areas in respect of these specific divisions. These are set out in Schedule 5, - the counties in Part 1 and the cities, namely Dublin, Cork, Waterford, Limerick and Galway in Part 2 of the schedule.
2. Within each county there was a further local government administrative division, namely boroughs and towns, as set out in Schedule 6 of the 2001 Act (see appendix A). That schedule divides these local government areas into boroughs, former urban districts and former town commissioners however all of the areas listed are "towns" within the meaning of the 2001 Act and so fall within the definition of "built up area" in that Act.
3. A 50 kilometre per hour applied. The Road Traffic Act 2004 therefore applied a 'default' Speed Limit of 50 kilometres per hour in respect of all public roads other than motorways in the areas listed in Schedule 5 Part 2 and Schedule 6 Parts 1 and 2. This covers cities set out in part 2 of Schedule 5, namely, Cork, Limerick, Dublin, Waterford and Galway as well as the boroughs and towns set out in Schedule 6, Parts 1 and 2.
4. This provision preserves the definition of "built up area" as contained in the 2004 Act, prior to the enactment of the Local Government Reform Act 2014, for the purpose of applying the 50 kilometre per hour speed limit.

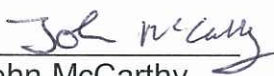
A full schedule of 'Built up areas' is listed in Appendix A of this circular.

Implementation

In order to gauge progress on implementation in relation to Circulars RSD 1 and 2 of 2015 as well as the Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland, you are requested to nominate a Department liaison person for the implementation of Speed Limits, to complete the questionnaire in Appendix B and email responses to speedlimits@dttas.ie by 16th March 2016.

Queries regarding the above should be addressed to speedlimits@dttas.ie.

Yours sincerely


John McCarthy
Senior Advisor

CC Senior Engineers

Appendix A

List of Built up areas

[2001.] *Local Government Act, 2001.* [No. 37.]
SCHEDULE 5 *Section 10(2).*

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (COUNTIES AND CITIES)

PART 1

Counties

Carlow	Mayo
Cavan	Meath
Clare	Monaghan
Cork	North Tipperary
Donegal	Offaly
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	Roscommon
Fingal	Sligo
Galway	South Dublin
Kerry	South Tipperary
Kildare	Waterford
Kilkenny	Westmeath
Laois	Wexford
Leitrim	Wicklow
Limerick	
Longford	
Louth	

PART 2

Cities

Cork	Limerick
Dublin	Waterford
Galway	

Appendix A (Continued)

Section 10(3).

[No. 37.]

Local Government Act, 2001.

[2001.]

SCHEDULE 6

LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREAS (TOWNS)

PART 1

CHAPTER 1

Boroughs

Clonmel
Drogheda
Kilkenny
Sligo
Wexford

CHAPTER 2

Former Urban Districts

Arklow
Athlone
Athy
Ballina
Ballinasloe
Birr
Bray
Buncrana
Bundoran
Carlow
Carrickmacross
Carrick-on-Suir
Cashel
Castlebar
Castleblayney
Cavan
Clonakilty
Clones
Cobh
Dundalk
Dungarvan
Ennis
Enniscorthy
Fermoy
Kells
Killarney

Kilrush
Kinsale
Letterkenny
Listowel
Longford
Macroom
Mallow
Midleton
Monaghan
Naas
Navan
Nenagh
New Ross
Skibbereen
Templemore
Thurles
Tipperary
Tralee
Trim
Tullamore
Westport
Wicklow
Youghal

PART 2

Former Town Commissioners

Ardee
Balbriggan
Ballybay
Ballyshannon
Bandon
Bantry
Belturbet
Boyle
Cootehill
Droichead Nua
Edenderry
Gorey
Granard
Greystones

Kilkee
Leixlip
Lismore
Loughrea
Mountmellick
Munehbeg
Mullingar
Passage West
Portlaoise
Shannon
Tramore
Tuam

Appendix B

Speed Limits Implementation Questionnaire – February 2016

Speed Limits Department Contact Person Name _____
Email Address _____
Phone Landline _____
Phone Mobile _____

Rural speed Limit Sign (to be implemented by 12th June 2015) implemented YES/NO []
If **no** please supply explanation: - _____

[Note: - when implemented please confirm to DTTAS at speedlimits@dttas.ie].

Removal of Inappropriate Signs (implemented by 29th April 2016) implemented YES/NO
[]. If **no** please supply progress note: - _____

[Note: - when implemented please confirm to DTTAS at speedlimits@dttas.ie].

Speed Limits Inventory and MapRoad (implemented by 4th January 2016) implemented
YES/NO []. If **no** please supply explanation: - _____

[Note: - when implemented please confirm to DTTAS at speedlimits@dttas.ie].

Update of Speed Limits (implemented by 28th April 2017) implemented YES/NO []. If **no**
please supply progress note: - _____

[Note: - when implemented please confirm to DTTAS at speedlimits@dttas.ie].