RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

RESTRICTED ROADS (20 MPH SPEED LIMIT) (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM EUAN RENTON

20MPH Limit – my experience in Edinburgh

I am of a strong view that the 20MPH vehicle speed limit measures that have been implemented in Edinburgh are a very positive move, have already had positive consequences and I expect these will increase going forward.

In my experience since the speed reduction measures have been introduced, average speeds have fallen, even though they are not generally at or below 20MPH. The impact of lower speeds will have been positive for the victims of road traffic accidents but I expect the greater impact is yet to come as a lower speed culture beds in and people realise the road environment is less threatening. People will walk and cycle more and be less intimidated by vehicles.

As a pedestrian, cyclist and car driver I know there are advantages of each method of transport. Motor vehicle and their need for roadspace and have come to dominated our built up areas to the detriment of people and have undermined the value place can have. A 20 MPH limit in more built up areas will help redress this negative imbalance and I look