RURAL ECONOMY AND CONNECTIVITY COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM SCOTLAND’S PLAY COUNCIL

“Investing in children’s play is one of the most important things we can do to improve children’s health and wellbeing in Scotland” Sir Harry Burns (Former Chief Medical Officer)

Scotland’s Play Council, Play Scotland welcome this Bill and the immediate positive impact it could have on children’s health, wellbeing and right to play.

The campaign to extend and enforce 20 mph zones was one of the Top Ten Asks from the Play Strategy and has received support in national meetings and forums.

Top Ten Asks -

• Support local authorities to remove all No Ball Games signs
• Open up more school playgrounds to play during and outside school day
• Support campaign to extend and enforce 20 mph zones
• Support community efforts to extend all Street Play
• Implement Getting it Right for Play and review Place Standard to make more child friendly
• Campaign for Play Sufficiency duty in new Planning Bill
• Build a network of Play Champions, local and regional, through Play Charter
• Improve play training and practice in early learning, childcare and schools
• Promote the use of the principles of Universal Design in making spaces for play
• Protect and prioritise wild and natural play spaces

Scotland’s Play Council
Scotland’s Play Council is a national forum formed by Play Scotland to help build the capacity and voice of the play sector in Scotland. This initiative grew out of Scotland’s Play Strategy and Action Plan and is aimed at leaders who value, support and promote play across the children and young people’s sector.

Scotland’s Play Council is calling for all political parties to further support and invest in children’s play because of the proven benefits to children, families and communities and pledge to make Scotland the best place to play.

Scotland’s Play Council is calling on all politicians to make street play a priority by providing guidance on street play to Local Authorities to ensure that children are able to play and feel welcome in their communities (eg interpretation of the Road Traffic Regulations Act to allow street closures for play; removal of No Ball Games signs; giving children and young people a role in Community Planning). (Play Manifesto 2016)

Play Scotland is the national organisation for Play and works to make children’s right to play a reality in Scotland. Play Scotland works to promote the importance of play
for all children and young people, and campaigns to create increased play opportunities in the community.
Scotland’s Play Strategy (2013) values play as a life-enhancing daily experience for all our children and you people; in their homes, nurseries, school and communities, and supports the reduction in speed limit to enable children to play safely in streets around their communities