

5, PETITION - REMOVE 20MPH SPEED LIMITS FROM MAIN ROADS ACROSS WEST LoTHIAN

The Council Executive considered a petition (details of which had been circulated) and which called upon on the council to remove 20mph speed limits from main roads across West Lothian.

Mr Lorenzo Franchitti who had organised the petition then spoke in support of the petition which had been signed by 4881 at the time of submission to the council.

Mr Franchitti expressed his concerns for the implementation of the Spaces for People Programme and in particular the introduction of 20mph speed limits across most main roads in West Lothian and the impact this was having on residents and local businesses. He felt that the changes had been implemented following consultation with as few as 471 people (or 0.25% of the population of West Lothian's adult population)

Mr Franchitti continued by saying that he understood that the council had on its website a speed limit review strategy which seemed the most appropriate and methodical way forward as to the setting of road speed limits should there be an requirement to make changes.

He concluded his presentation by stating that he felt that the scheme constituted a large waste of public funds with immense negative feedback and that communities would like to see these limits removed and any changes to roads should be made on a case-by-case basis with the appropriate methodology behind them.

Mr Franchitti then responded to question from members.

The Chair thanked Mr Franchitti for his presentation and for responding to the questions posed.

Decision

1. To note the contents of the petition;
2. To thank Mr Franchitti for his presentation to Council Executive;
and
3. To refer the petition to a future meeting of the Environment Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.