

Dear Petitions Committee

Thank you for email of 21st January 2025 regarding our Petition for a 30mph limit through our villages of Eglwys Fach and Ffwrnais. We are grateful to the Committee for keeping this Petition open until we see some real commitment to action from the relevant Government department, to make our village a liveable place.

You suggested that we respond on the following issues:

What are your thoughts on the attached document:

The attached letter from Ken Skates repeats the response from last year, that the Welsh Government will review the issue following the publication of the new Setting Local Speed Limits in Wales (SLSLiW) Guidance. Following the last response from Lee Waters, the Petitions Committee agreed with us that the Government is **NOT** meeting its commitments to its **current** Policies and Strategies, let alone any updated ones. We explained why in the last response and still feel we don't have an adequate answer to that question.

The latest letter from Ken Skates notes that the Welsh Government will NOT be providing a pavement for the village, stating that it is 'impractical'. The feasibility showed that it was perfectly practical, but expensive. It would be clearer to be honest with the residents of this village, who have been campaigning for over 30 years for this pavement.

Notwithstanding this, if a pavement is impossible then that makes a reduction in speed limits even more crucial. Our petition is to reduce the speed from 40mph to 30 mph, however, given that we have no expectation now of a pavement, it would be important to consider the possibility of a 20mph instead of 30mph.

Mr Skates notes that *"My officials are now considering options to manage this risk which may include a lower speed. Once the preferred option is established, we will engage with the Community Council"*. The Community Council would like to engage with these officials at the earliest opportunity, before any decision is made rather than afterwards.

Does it adequately address the issues that you raised?

No, we do not think it adequately addresses the issues that we raised, against current or emerging future policy. We would like:

- a) A commitment to reducing the speed limit from 40mph based on current policy.
- b) A timeline for engaging with officials from the Transport and North Wales Section of Welsh Government.

Further questions

We would repeat our key question to from last year, to Ken Skates “*Would you consider that the road situation in the villages of Ffwrnais and Eglwys Fach meets current Policy requirements?*”

If not, will you recommend that there is a reduction in the speed limit through the village from 40 mph?

We would refer you to our evidence set out in our previous correspondence with the Petitions Committee.

We look forward to your response.

Yours Faithfully

Dr. Ruth Stevenson (on behalf of the Eglwys Fach and Ffwrnais communities)