

POLICY NOTE

THE M8/M73/M74 MOTORWAYS (30MPH, 40MPH AND 50MPH SPEED LIMIT) REGULATIONS 2022

SSI 2022/26

The above instrument was made in exercise of powers conferred by section 17(2), (3) and (3ZA) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The instrument is subject to the negative procedure.

Policy Objectives

To implement speed limits of 30mph, 40mph and 50mph on sections of the M8/A8/A89 Edinburgh – Greenock Trunk Road on both the eastbound and westbound carriageways between Junction 9 Easterhouse/ Springhill and Junction 6 Newhouse, the M73 Maryville – Mollinsburn Trunk Road on both the northbound and southbound carriageways between Junction 1 Maryville and Junction 2 Baillieston and the M74/A74(M) Glasgow – Carlisle Trunk Road on both the northbound and southbound carriageways between junction 3A Daldowie and Junction 5 Raith, with effect from 24 March 2022.

Background

Scottish Roads Partnership (SRP) is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the trunk roads associated with the M8/M73/M74 Motorway Improvements Project, on behalf of Transport Scotland.

SRP identified locations where its final design and construction of the traffic speed signs did not align with the M8/M73/M74 Motorways (30mph, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limit) Regulations 2017 ('the 2017 Regulations'). SRP recommended that Transport Scotland promote amendments to the 2017 Regulations. Upon consideration of this recommendation, Transport Scotland determined that these amendments were necessary.

In addition to this, SRP recommended extending the 50mph speed limit of the main carriageway of the M73 northbound. By relocating the 70mph entry point sign to a position closer to the M8 carriageway merge, this provides a safer point for road users to accelerate. Transport Scotland considered this recommendation and determined that it was both reasonable and necessary.

Consultation

In accordance with section 134(8) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the Scottish Government have consulted the following statutory bodies:-

Police Scotland

Glasgow City Council

North Lanarkshire Council

South Lanarkshire Council

Scottish Fire and Rescue Service

A consultation exercise has successfully been undertaken with the relevant local authorities, Police Scotland and the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service. The consultation period ended on 16 December 2021.

Financial Effects

There are no costs incurred by the Scottish Government associated with this instrument.

Impact

The Regulations align with the overall operation of the M8, M73 and M74 Motorways and there will be no impact on businesses or road users. Therefore, no Business and Regulatory Impact Assessment (BRIA) was necessary.

Scottish Government
Transport Scotland
26 January 2022