



# **M32 Eastville Viaduct**

## **Statutory Instrument Consultation Document Proposed Permanent 40mph Speed Limit**

**December 2024**

## Summary of the consultation

<b>Topic of this consultation</b>	National Highways' ("NH") proposed statutory instrument which will implement a 40mph permanent speed limit in both directions on the M32 motorway from a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge.
<b>Scope of this consultation</b>	<p>This consultation provides the opportunity for you to share your feedback on our proposed introduction of a 40mph permanent speed limit on the M32 in both directions from a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge. The permanent 40mph speed limit will ensure that this stretch of the M32 conforms to current design standards.</p> <p>This proposal for a permanent 40mph speed limit will replace the temporary 40mph speed limit that is currently in place on this section of the M32.</p> <p>The proposed amendments are explained in this document.</p> <p>We are keen to have your comments on the proposal set out in this document. We would specifically like to hear how the proposal could affect you, your organisation or those you represent.</p>
<b>Geographical scope</b>	The M32 motorway in both directions from a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge.

### General Information

<b>To</b>	The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups or individuals.
<b>Body/bodies responsible for the consultation</b>	National Highways
<b>Getting to this stage</b>	A temporary 40mph speed limit is currently in place on the M32 in both directions between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge. This temporary speed limit was implemented using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order as a result of an operational review by NH, which deemed the speed restriction necessary for safety reasons. We, NH, are now proposing the 40mph speed limit is made permanent in the form of regulations made by way of a statutory instrument.
<b>Duration</b>	The consultation runs for eight weeks from Monday 2 December 2024 to Sunday 26 January 2025. It's important that you respond by 23:59 on Sunday 26 January 2025 as responses received after the consultation closes may not be considered.

<p><b>How to respond</b></p>	<p>Please respond to the consultation through our online survey. A link to the survey can be found here:  <a href="https://nationalhighways.citizenspace.com/he/m32-eastville-viaduct-40mph-statutory-instrument">https://nationalhighways.citizenspace.com/he/m32-eastville-viaduct-40mph-statutory-instrument</a></p> <p>When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear what organisation you represent and, where applicable, how the views of members were gathered.</p>
<p><b>Additional ways to become involved</b></p>	<p>Alternatively, you can complete the consultation response form and send it by email to <a href="mailto:m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk">m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk</a> or by post to:</p> <p>M32 Eastville Viaduct – 40mph Speed Limit Consultation  National Highways  Temple Point  Redcliffe Way  Redcliffe  Bristol  BS1 6NL</p>
<p><b>Enquiries</b></p>	<p>If you have any questions or would like to find out more, please contact us by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Telephone: 0300 123 5000 (and ask to speak to a member of the M32 Eastville Viaduct Project team).</li> <li>- Email: <a href="mailto:m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk">m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>After the consultation</b></p>	<p>All responses received within the consultation period will be considered.</p> <p>Following the consultation, a summary report will be published on our Citizen Space website within 12 weeks of the consultation ending. The summary report will provide an analysis of the responses received and our feedback on these.</p> <p>Subject to results of the consultation, we envisage the proposal would be implemented by the end of summer 2025.</p>
<p><b>Compliance with the Government's Consultation principles</b></p>	<p>The consultation complies with the Government's Consultation Principles.</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance</a></p>

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## **Executive Summary**

This consultation provides an opportunity for interested parties to comment on our proposal to introduce a 40mph permanent speed limit on the M32 from a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge, in both directions.

The proposed speed restriction will be implemented by NH making a new statutory instrument. This statutory instrument will amend the current 60mph speed limit over this section of carriageway.

We welcome comments specifically on how the proposal could affect you, your organisation or those you represent.

# 1. How we are conducting the consultation

## 1.1 What is this consultation about?

This consultation concerns NH's proposal for the implementation of a permanent 40mph speed limit in both directions on the M32 motorway between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge.

## 1.2 Why do we need the 40mph speed limit?

A temporary 40mph speed limit is currently in place on the M32 in both directions between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge. This temporary speed limit was implemented using a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order as a result of an operational review which deemed the speed restriction necessary for safety reasons.

We're now proposing the 40mph speed limit is made permanent in the form of regulations made by way of a statutory instrument.

The speed limit changes are required due to the geometry of this section of the motorway. The elevated section of the motorway around junction 2 has limited forward visibility and narrow hard shoulders which doesn't meet the design standards of today's motorways. In addition, junction 2 and junction 3 are located close together, which results in a high level of weaving traffic (i.e. manoeuvring between traffic lanes). The proposed speed limit changes are required on safety grounds and to help ensure a smooth-running network.

## 1.3 How to respond to this consultation

This consultation will run from Monday 2 December 2024 to Sunday 26 January 2025. It's important that you respond by 23:59 on Sunday 26 January 2025 as responses received after the consultation closes may not be considered.

If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, it would be helpful if you could make this clear. Please also indicate the nature of the organisation, how many individuals' views are included in the response and ways in which these views were gathered.

You can respond to the consultation by:

- Completing our online survey. A link to the survey can be found on the scheme webpage at: <https://nationalhighways.citizenspace.com/he/m32-eastville-viaduct-40mph-statutory-instrument>
- Completing the consultation response form located in Appendix B and returning it to us by email or by post to the addresses below.

**Email:** [m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk)

**Post:** M32 Eastville Viaduct – 40mph Speed Limit Consultation  
National Highways  
Temple Point  
Redcliffe Way  
Redcliffe  
Bristol  
BS1 6NL

## **1.4 What happens next?**

All responses received within the consultation period will be considered. Following the consultation period, a summary consultation report will be made available on our website within 12 weeks of the consultation ending. The report will provide an analysis of responses received and provide our feedback on these.

## **1.5 Confidentiality of information**

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be published or disclosed in accordance with the access to information regimes. These are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA"), the Data Protection Act 2018 ("DPA"), the UK General Data Protection Regulation ("UK GDPR") and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("EIR").

If you would like the information that you provide to be treated as confidential, it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information as confidential. Any information not published, including personal information, may still be subject to disclosure in accordance with FOIA. If we receive a request for disclosure of such unpublished information, we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. We will not take a standard confidentiality statement included in an email message as a specific request for non-disclosure.

We will process your personal data in accordance with the DPA and the UK GDPR and in the majority of circumstances this will mean that your personal data will not be disclosed to third parties. However, the information you send us may need to be published in a summary of responses to this consultation.

If you'd like more information about how we manage data, or a copy of our privacy notice, please contact [DataProtectionAdvice@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:DataProtectionAdvice@nationalhighways.co.uk).

## **1.6 Further information**

To receive further information on the scheme, you can contact the project team in writing at:

M32 Eastville Viaduct – 40mph Speed Limit Consultation  
National Highways  
Temple Point  
Redcliffe Way  
Redcliffe  
Bristol  
BS1 6NL

**Or by email:** [m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk)

## **1.7 Government consultation principles**

We are conducting this consultation in accordance with the Government's Consultation Principles, which are that consultations should:

- Be clear and concise.
- Have a purpose!
- Be informative.
- Be only part of a process of engagement.
- Last for a proportionate amount of time.
- Be targeted.
- Take account of the groups being consulted.
- Be agreed before publication.
- Facilitate scrutiny.
- Have their responses published in a timely fashion.
- Not generally be launched during local or national election periods.

If you have reason to believe this consultation document does not comply with these Consultation Principles, please write to our consultation co-ordinator at the address below, setting out the areas where you believe this consultation does not meet the principles:

M32 Eastville Viaduct – 40mph Speed Limit Consultation  
National Highways  
Temple Point  
Redcliffe Way  
Redcliffe  
Bristol  
BS1 6NL

Further information about the Consultation Principles can be found on the GOV.UK website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/consultation-principles-guidance>



## **2. Legislative Changes**

### **2.1 Proposed legislative changes for the implementation of a 40mph speed limit.**

Subject to the outcome of this consultation, NH proposes to make a statutory instrument under sections 17(2) and (3) of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 ("RTRA"). Sections 17(2) and (3) of the RTRA permit the making of Regulations (by way of a statutory instrument) that regulate the manner in which, and the conditions subject to which, motorways may be used by traffic authorised to use such motorways.

The proposed statutory instrument will make permanent the current temporary 40mph speed limit on the M32 carriageway in both directions between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge. The permanent 40mph speed limit is necessary on safety grounds and to help ensure a smooth-running network.

An impact assessment has not been prepared for the proposed statutory instrument as no significant impact on the cost of business or the voluntary sector is foreseen. An Explanatory Memorandum will be published alongside the Regulations at [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk) in due course.

### 3. Proposed 40mph speed limit

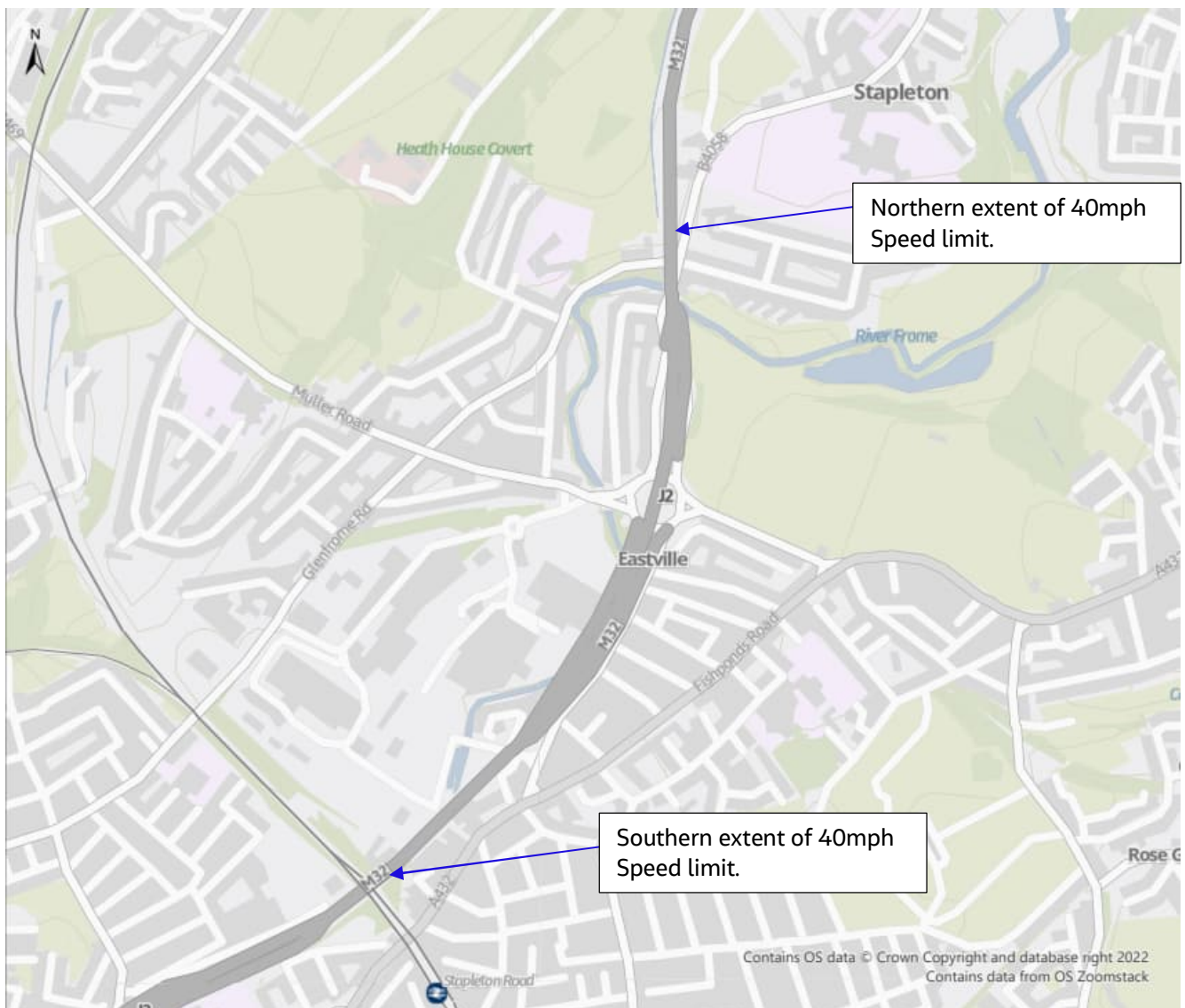
#### 3.1 Background

The M32 Eastville Viaduct is an elevated 1.1km section of the M32 - a 7.1km-long motorway that links the M4 at junction 19 (Hambrook Interchange) with Bristol city centre. It is part of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) owned and maintained by National Highways and carries 65,000 vehicles a day.

The structure was built in the 1970s to design standards of the day. If the structure was built today with its geometry causing limited forward visibility and narrow hard shoulders, the speed limit would be set at 40mph.

A review of the structure found the design doesn't meet current standards and as such a reduced speed limit is necessary to ensure the speed matches the design geometry.

#### 3.2 Map of affected stretch of the M32 motorway



### **3.3 Proposed changes**

The permanent 40mph speed limit is proposed in both directions between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge, as shown on the map in section 3.2 above.

The speed limit changes are required due to the geometry of this section of the motorway. The elevated section of the motorway around junction 2 has limited forward visibility and narrow hard shoulders which don't meet the road design standards of today's motorways. In addition, junction 2 and junction 3 are located close together, which results in a high level of weaving traffic. The proposed speed limit changes are required on safety grounds and to help ensure a smooth-running network.

### **3.4 Enforcement**

Obtaining an acceptable level of compliance with the permanent 40mph speed limit is key to the successful and safe operation of the speed limit.

NH is not an enforcement agency and has no enforcement powers. Enforcement of the 40mph speed limit would be carried out by the Police. No new offences or sanctions will be introduced because of the proposed regulations.

## Appendix A. Frequently asked questions

### Q. What is happening?

- A. NH is proposing to implement a permanent 40mph speed limit on the M32 carriageway between a point 83 metres north of the northern mechanical join of the Eastville Viaduct to a point 22 metres north of the Severn Beach railway line overbridge, in both directions. This section of road is currently subject to a temporary 40mph speed limit. To improve safety and to help ensure a smooth-running network we are proposing to introduce a permanent 40mph speed limit on this section of road and install associated speed limit signs.

### Q. Why is National Highways consulting?

- A. It is a statutory requirement for NH to consult on regulations made under section 17 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

NH is committed to providing an effective consultation that complies with the Government's Consultation Principles. This consultation provides an opportunity for interested parties, individuals and stakeholders to comment on the proposed changes.

All responses received within the consultation period will be considered. Following the consultation period, a summary report will be published on NH's website within 12 weeks of the consultation ending. The summary report will provide an analysis of the responses received and NH's feedback on these.

### Q. Who can respond to this?

- A. Anyone affected by the implementation of the permanent 40mph speed limit can respond to the consultation. The consultation is aimed at any affected stakeholder groups including individuals and organisations.

### Q. Is the introduction of the permanent 40mph speed limit likely to be effective?

- A. The introduction of the permanent 40mph speed limit on this section of the M32 is required on safety grounds due to the geometry of this section of motorway. It will also help ensure a smooth-running network.

### Q. When is the permanent 40mph speed limit likely to become implemented?

- A. Subject to the outcome of this consultation we intend to implement the permanent 40mph speed limit by the end of summer 2025.

### Q. How are you going to enforce the speed limit?

- A. NH is not an enforcement agency and has no enforcement powers. Speed limits are enforced by the Police.

## Appendix B. Consultation response form

Project Name: M32 – Proposed Permanent 40mph speed limit.

You can provide your views by completing our online survey. A link to the survey can be found on the webpage at:

<https://nationalhighways.citizenspace.com/he/m32-eastville-viaduct-40mph-statutory-instrument>

If you would prefer to submit your response in writing, please complete the below response form and return this to us by post or by email to the addresses below. Please ensure your response reaches us by 23:59 on the closing date.

**By post:** M32 Eastville Viaduct – 40mph Speed Limit Consultation  
National Highways  
Temple Point  
Redcliffe Way  
Redcliffe  
Bristol  
BS1 6NL

**Or by email:** [m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk](mailto:m32eastvilleviaduct@nationalhighways.co.uk)

### Part 1: Information about you

Completion of this section is optional but helps with our analysis of the results. Section 1.5 of the Consultation Document explains that we may be obliged to release this information, if asked to do so.

<b>Name</b>	
<b>Address</b>	
<b>Postcode</b>	
<b>Email</b>	
<b>Company Name or Organisation (if applicable)</b>	

**Please tick one box from the list below that best describes you/your company or organisation.**

<input type="checkbox"/>	Small to Medium Enterprise (up to 50 employees)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large Company
<input type="checkbox"/>	Representative Organisation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade Union
<input type="checkbox"/>	Interest Group
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Police
<input type="checkbox"/>	Member of the public
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please describe):

**If you are responding on behalf of an organisation or interest group, how many members do you have and how did you obtain the views of your members:**

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**If you would like your response or personal details to be treated confidentially, please explain why:**

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## Appendix C. List of consultees

Government / Local Government bodies	
MOD DE&S Secretariat Ministry of Defence Maple 0a, #2043 MOD Abbey Wood Bristol BS34 8JH	Local Government Association Local Government House Smith Square London SW1P 3HZ
The Crown Estate 6 Bell's Brae Edinburgh EH4 3BJ	MP for Bristol North West House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
MP for Bristol East House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	MP for Bristol Central House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
MP for Bristol South House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	MP for Bristol North East House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
MP for Filton and Bradley Stoke House of Commons London SW1A 0AA	MP for Thornbury and Yate House of Commons London SW1A 0AA
Ashley Ward Councillor Bristol City Council Green Group Office City Hall PO Box 3399 Bristol BS1 9NE	Eastville Ward Councillor Bristol City Council Green Group Office City Hall PO Box 3399 Bristol BS1 9NE
Easton Ward Councillor Bristol City Council Green Group Office City Hall PO Box 3399 Bristol BS1 9NE	Lawrence Hill Councillor Bristol City Council Green Group Office City Hall PO Box 3399 Bristol BS1 9NE
Lockleaze Councillor Bristol City Council Green Group Office City Hall PO Box 3399 Bristol BS1 9NE	
Metro Mayor West of England Combined Authority 70 Redcliff Street Bristol BS16AL	Bristol City Council Leader City Hall PO Box 3176 Bristol BS3 9FS
Chair of Transport and Connectivity Committee Bristol City Council City Hall PO BOX 3399 Bristol BS19NE	Head of City Transport Bristol City Council City Hall PO BOX 3399 Bristol BS19NE



South Gloucestershire Council PO Box 300 Civic Centre High Street Kingswood Bristol BS15 0DS	Major Projects Senior Responsible Officer South Gloucestershire Council PO Box 1953 Bristol BS37 0DE
<b>Core Responders / Legal</b>	
National Police Chiefs Council 1st Floor 10 Victoria St London SW1H 0NN	The Association of Ambulance Chief Executives 32 Southwark Bridge Road London SE1 9EU
British Transport Police Force HQ 25 Camden Road London NW1 9LN	Magistrates' Association Fitzroy Square London W1P 6DD
Chief Fire Officers Association 9-11 Pebble Close Amington Tamworth Staffordshire B77 4RD	Police Federation Federation House Highbury Drive Leatherhead Surrey KT22 7UY
Ministry of Defence Police 5th Floor, Zone A Main Building Whitehall London SW1A 2HB	Police Superintendents Association of England and Wales 67a Reading Road Pangbourne Berkshire RG8 7JD
Regimental Secretary RHQ RMP Defence Police College Policing and Guarding Postal Point 38 Southwick Park Fareham Hants PO17 6E	Avon and Somerset Police Police and Fire Headquarters, Valley Road, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 8JJ
South Western Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust Abbey Court Eagle Way Exeter EX2 7HY	Great Western Air Ambulance Charity County Gates 3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor Ashton Road Bristol BS32JH
National Police Air Service NPAS Almondsbury, Emergency Air Operations Base Gloucester Road Almondsbury Bristol BS324FB	Avon Fire and Rescue Police and Fire Headquarters, Valley Road, Portishead, Bristol, BS20 8JJ
<b>Environmental advisory bodies</b>	
Environment Agency South East Regional Office Kings Meadow House Kings Meadow Road	Natural England 1 East Parade Sheffield S1 2ET

Reading RG1 8DQ	
Wessex Regional Flood and Coastal Committee Secretariat Rivers House Sunrise Business Park Higher Shaftsbury Road Blandford Forum DT118TH	Historic England 4th Floor Cannon Bridge House 25 Dowgate Hill London EC4R 2YA
English Heritage The Engine House Fire Fly Avenue Swindon SN22EH	Canal and Rivers Trust National Waterways Museum Ellesmere Port South Pier Road Ellesmere Port Cheshire CH65 4FW
Forestry Commission Bullers Hill Kennford Exeter EX67XR	Friends of the Earth 26-3 Underwood Street London N1 7JQ
<b>Road and transport organisations</b>	
AIRSO 68 The Boulevard Worthing BN13 1LA	Alliance of British Drivers P O Box 248 MANCHESTER M41 4BW
British Motorcycle Federation 3 Oswin Road Brailsford Industrial Estate Braunstone Leicester LE3 1HR	Campaign For Better Transport 16 Waterside 44-48 Wharf Road London N1 7UX
DVSA Berkeley House Croydon Street Bristol BS5 0DA	Freight Transport Association Hermes House St John's Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9UZ
Health and Safety Executive Rose Court 2 Southwark Bridge London SE1 9HS	Institute of Advanced Motorists IAM House 510 Chiswick High Road London W4 5RG
Institute of Road Safety Officers IRSO Head Office 12 Haddon Close Wellingborough Northamptonshire NN8 5ZB	Logistics UK Hermes House St John's Road Tunbridge Wells Kent TN4 9UZ
Motorcycle Action Group Central Office P.O. Box 750 Warwick CV34 9FU	Motorcycle Industry Trainers Association Rye Hill Office Park Birmingham Road Allesley Coventry CV5 9AB
National Express Group PLC National Express House Mill Lane Digbeth	FACTS Office F18 The Media Centre 7 Northumberland Street

Birmingham B5 6DD	Huddersfield HD1 1RL
Parliamentary Advisory Council for Transport Safety (PACTS) Clutha House 10 Storey's Gate London SW1P 3AY	RAC Foundation 89-91 Pall Mall London SW1Y 5HS
Road Haulage Association Roadway House Bretton Way Bretton Peterborough PE3 8DD	Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents RoSPA House 3 Calthorpe Road Edgbaston Birmingham B15 1RP
The Heavy Transport Association The White House High Street Tattenhall Chester CH39PX	The Transport Association The Granary Abbey Manor Farm Worcester Road Evesham WR11 4TA
<b>Vehicle Recovery Operators</b>	
Association of Vehicle Recovery Operators AVRO House 1 Bath Street Rugby CV21 3JF	Britannia Rescue Freepost RSJA-XLCX-BLCE Folly Hall Mills St Thomas Road Huddersfield HD1 3LT
Institute of Vehicle Recovery Operators Top Floor Bignell House Horton Road West Drayton Middlesex UB7 8EJ	National Tyre Distributors Association 8 Temple Square Aylesbury Buckinghamshire HP20 2QH
Green Flag Green Flag House Cote Lane Pudsey Leeds LS3 5GF	The AA Fanum House Basing View Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 4EA
The RAC RAC House Brockhurst Crescent Walsall WS5 4AW	Road Rescue Recovery Association Hubberts Bridge Rd Kirton Holme Boston Lincolnshire PE20 1TW
The Automobile Association Ltd Fanum House Basing view Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 4EA	
<b>EDI Organisations</b>	

Disabled Motoring UK National Headquarters Ashwellthorpe Norwich NR16 1EX	Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee 2/17 Great Minster House 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR
<b>Business organisations</b>	
Association of British Insurers 51 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HQ	Business West Leigh Court Abbots Leigh Bristol BS8 3RA
British Insurance Brokers' Association 8th Floor John Stow House 18 Bevis Marks London EC3A 7JB	CBI South West Innovation Centre University of Exeter Rennes Drive EX4 4R
Institute of Civil Engineers One Great George Street Westminster London SW1P 3AA	Motor Insurers' Bureau Linford Wood House 6-12 Capital Drive Linford Wood Milton Keynes MK14 6XT
The Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation 119 Britannia Walk London N1 7JE	The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport Earlstrees Court Earlstrees Road Corby Northants NN17 4AX
Bristol Blue Licensed Taxi Association	