

## CENTRAL MANAGEMENT BRANCH



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**Your reference:** DALO/D35/2015  
**Our reference:** SUB-1121-2015

04 June 2015

Paul Carlisle  
Clerk to the Committee for Regional Development  
Committee Office  
Room 254  
Parliament Buildings  
BELFAST  
BT4 3XX

Dear Paul

### Road Traffic (Speed Limits) Bill

I refer to my letter of 29 May 2015 (DALO/D32/2015) with which I attached officials' briefing in respect of their appearance before the Committee on 10 June. Since that date certain other information has come to light which the Committee should find helpful in its scrutiny of the Bill.

Firstly, the Office of the Legislative Counsel has commented that:

- "The Bill is unnecessary given that the Department already has the power to set 20 mph speed limits and the costs and other implications that legislating for a mandatory 20 mph speed limit would have.";
- "If the Bill is enacted the position in the legislation and on the ground will be unsatisfactory."; and
- "Given the approach in the Bill, the effect can't really be diluted unfortunately."

Secondly, the Department's legal advisors have stated that "the Bill does not confer any additional power nor is any additional power required to achieve the Bill's apparent purpose".

I should be much obliged if you would bring these points to the attention of the Committee.

This letter is fully disclosable under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act.

Yours sincerely,

**[SIGNED]**  
**Alan Doherty**  
**Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer**