

ROADS, SPEED LIMITS, 50 KMH TRIAL

55. Hon Tom Stephens to the Minister for Transport:

I refer to the expected trials of 50kmh residential speed limits and ask -

- (1) When will the trials go ahead?
- (2) Can the Minister confirm that it is the responsibility of Main Roads Department (MRD) to install new speed limit signs?
- (3) Will you guarantee that MRD will be in a position to install the new signs at the commencement of the trials?

Hon M.J. CRIDDLE replied:

- (1) There have been many trials conducted throughout Australia and other parts of the world which have all identified positive benefits flowing from reduced speed limits. Given that there is strong support for the introduction of 50 kilometres per hour urban speed limits from communities, local government and peak representative groups, there is no need for a trial period. When and where the lower speed limit is to be introduced is still to be decided. There is no pre-determined date for the introduction of 50 kilometres per hour speed limits on residential roads. Introduction will involve all stakeholders and cannot occur before the regulatory framework, is in place.
- (2) Under the Road Traffic Code 1975 the Commissioner of Main Roads has responsibility for installing traffic signs including all regulatory speed limit signs.
- (3) Main Roads WA is preparing an implementation plan for the introduction of 50 kilometres per hour speed limits on residential roads. The installation of new signs will be addressed in the implementation plan.