

Department for Transport Consultation: Maximum speed limit for tractors on public roads

Response of The British Horse Society

The British Horse Society (BHS) represents the interests of the 3.4 million people in the UK who ride or who drive horse-drawn vehicles. With the membership of its Affiliated Riding Clubs and Bridleway Groups, the BHS is the largest and most influential equestrian charity in the UK.

The Society is committed to promoting the interests of all equestrians and the welfare of horses and ponies through education and training

1. Whilst the Independent Farming Regulation report recommended the Department for Transport raise the restriction to align it with countries in the EU where the limit is set at 40kmh, the Society would like to highlight that an increase in speed could result in greater stopping distances being required. If this is the case consideration needs to be given as to the impact that this will have on vulnerable road users, especially horse riders and horse drawn carriage drivers. It is important that their safety is not jeopardised. Many of these combinations will be travelling along narrow lanes with restricted widths.

Dated 30 January 2014



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