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**B I L L**

TO

Provide local traffic authorities with powers to develop urban safety hierarchies; to identify 20 mph zones and Home Zones; to require the Secretary of State to issue guidance on the setting of speed limits; and for connected purposes.

**B**E IT ENACTED by the Queen's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:—

**1 Urban safety hierarchy**

- (1) There shall be a new classification of speed limits in urban areas to be known as the urban safety hierarchy.
- (2) This hierarchy will set maximum speeds for different roads based on the existing or desired function of the road. 5
- (3) Local traffic authorities shall have the power to review urban roads for which they are the traffic authority and to declare them distributor, access or residential roads.
- (4) Local traffic authorities shall have the power to review the residential roads for which they are responsible and to declare certain of them home zones. 10
- (5) Access and residential roads shall, under the terms of the hierarchy, have speed limits no higher than 20 mph.
- (6) Local authorities shall have the power to implement speed orders in Home Zones of no higher than 10 mph.
- (7) In making declarations under subsections (3) and (4), local traffic authorities shall consult such individuals and organisations as they think fit. 15
- (8) In making such declarations, local traffic authorities must consider such guidance as is issued by the Secretary of State.

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**2 Guidance from the Secretary of State**

- (1) Within six months of this Act coming into force, the Secretary of State shall issue new guidance for the setting of urban speed limits, having regard to the results of research and current experience of implementation of urban speed limits. 5
- (2) In compiling the guidance under subsection (1), the Secretary of State shall consult such individuals and organisations as he thinks fit.
- (3) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to monitor and evaluate from time to time the implementation of the urban safety hierarchy and home zones having regard to reductions in road casualties, increases in walking and cycling and improvements in air and environmental quality. 10
- (4) A copy of any evaluation under subsection (3) shall be laid before both Houses of Parliament.

**3 Short, title, extent and commencement**

- (1) This Act may be cited as the Road Safety Act 2003. 15
- (2) Sections 1 and 2 of this Act shall come into force on the day on which it is passed.
- (3) This Act extends to England, Scotland and Wales.

# Road Safety Bill

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*Ordered to be brought in by  
Mr Mark Lazarowicz,  
Helen Jackson, Julia Drown, Peter Bottomley,  
Joan Walley, Mr David Kidney,  
Mr Andrew Dismore, Mr Brian H. Donohoe,  
Mr Don Foster, Tom Brake, Rob Marris  
and David Wright.*

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*Ordered, by the House of Commons,  
to be Printed, 24th June 2003.*

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PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON: THE STATIONERY OFFICE  
Printed in the United Kingdom by  
The Stationery Office Limited  
£x.xx net