



Comhairle Contae
Átha Cliath Theas

South Dublin
County Council

Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026 - For Approval

Eoin Burke
Director Planning and Transport

Background

- The Minister for Transport issued Circular **RW 21 of 2025** directing South Dublin County Council to commence a review of speed limits throughout the County in accordance with Sections 10D and 10E of the Road Traffic Act 2004, as amended.
- **Legislation and Guidance underpinning Speed Limits:** Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws under the Road Traffic Act 2004, as amended and in accordance with the 'Guidelines for Setting and Managing Speed Limits in Ireland' Department of Transport
- The making of Speed Limit Bye-Laws is a 'Reserved Function'

Stakeholder Engagement

Notification Letters (June 2026) on commencing 'Review of Urban Speed Limits 2026-2027 in South Dublin County' were sent to an Garda Síochána, the National Transport Authority, Transport Infrastructure Ireland and our neighbouring Local Authorities.

Draft Special Speed Limit Bye-Law proposal for the County prepared in early July 2026.

Elected Member Consultations:

SDCC conducted initial workshops with the elected members on the draft Speed Limit proposals at end of July 2026. (4no. Electoral Area Workshops held)

Public Consultation Process

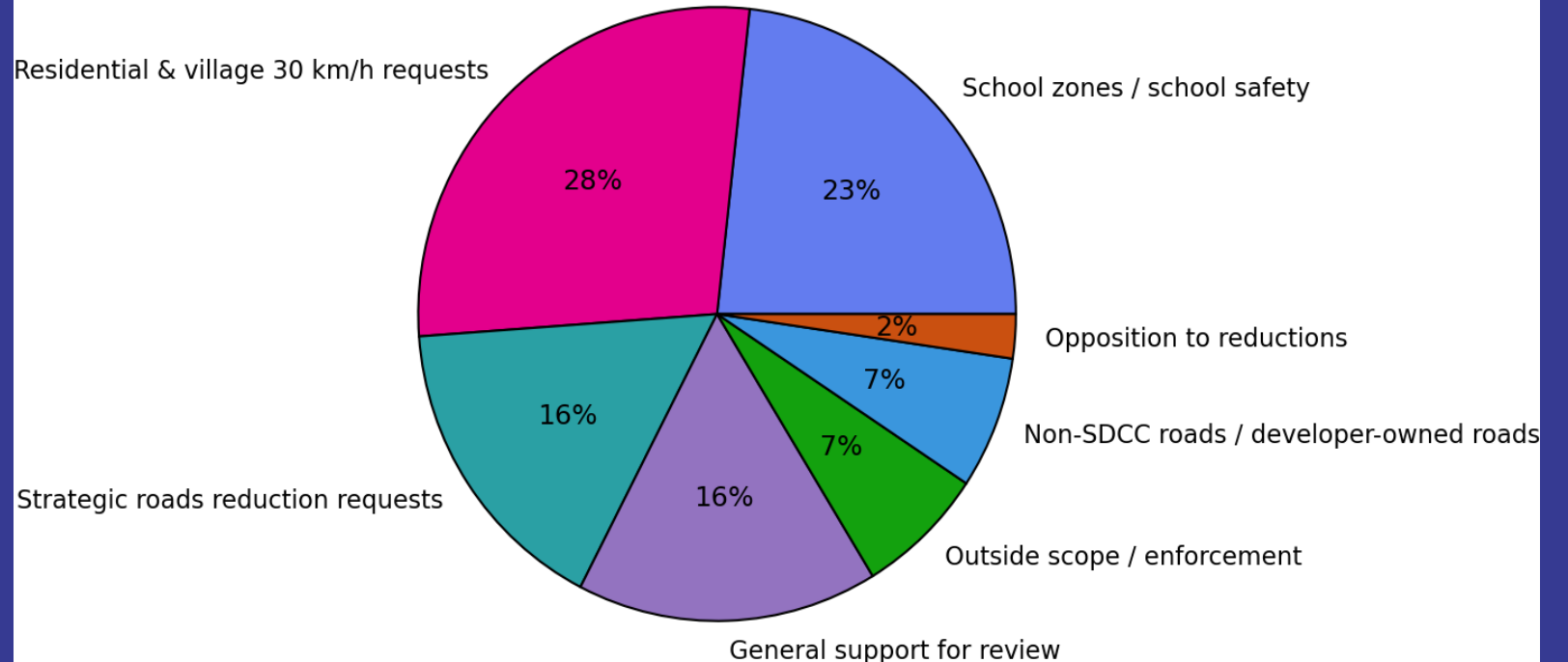
Public Consultation on the Draft 'Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026' was conducted between 6 August 2026 and the 4 September 2026.

43no. Submissions received during the Consultation period.

Issues Raised

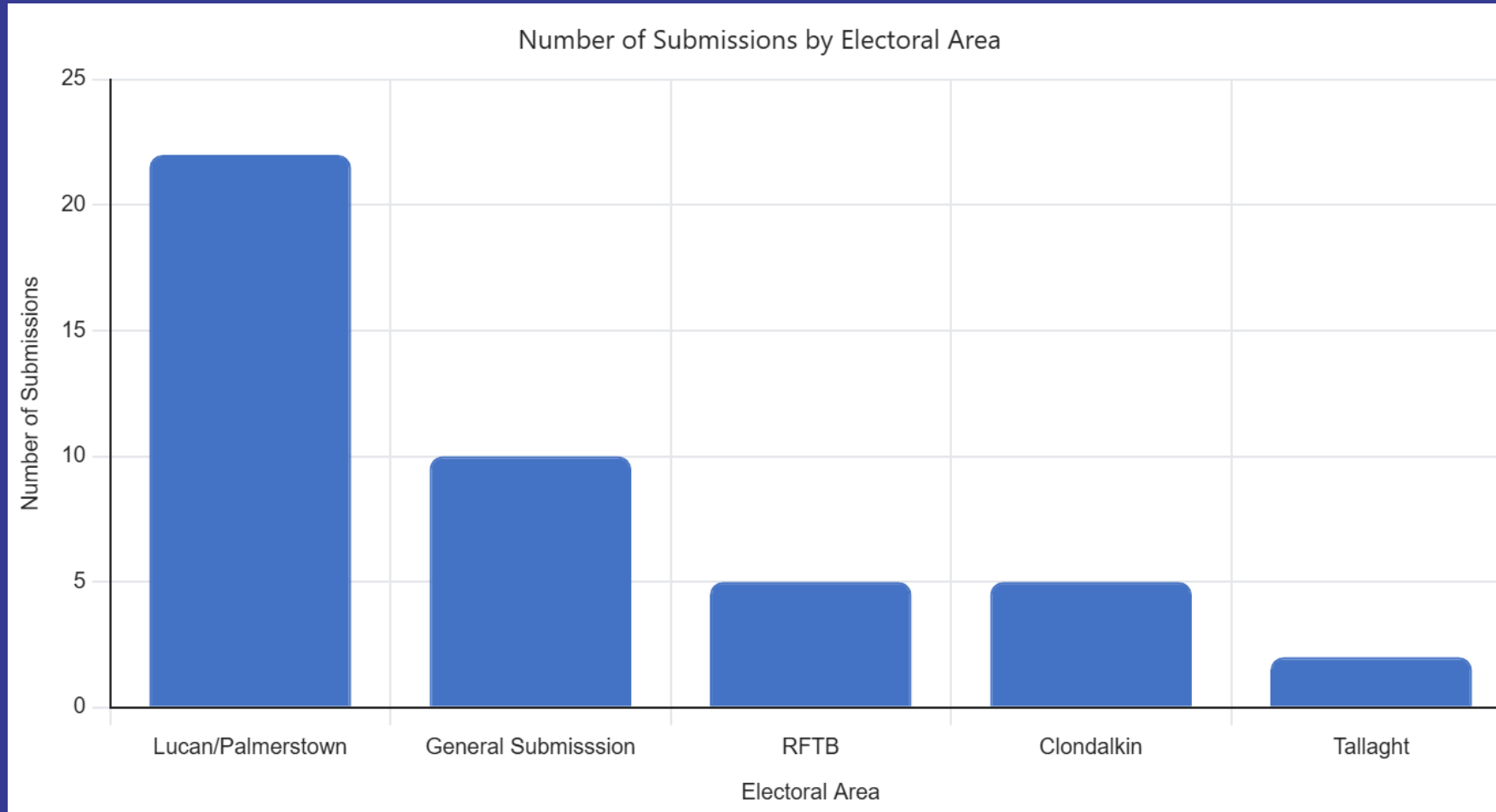
- Lower Urban Speed Limits
- Permanent Speed limit in School Zones
- Additional Speed Limit Reductions
- Enforcement and control of Driver Behaviour
- Active Travel and Cycling Safety
- Out of Scope

Submissions by Theme (43 Submissions)



Public Consultation Process

There were 43no. Submissions received during the Consultation period.



Public Consultation Process

The submissions were evaluated against:

- The Road Traffic Acts and associated regulations;
- Department of Transport Speed Limit Guidelines;
- Road function and hierarchy;
- Road safety considerations;
- Land use characteristics;
- School and community facilities;
- Active travel considerations;
- Network consistency; and
- Operational requirements of the road network.

Following assessment, 17no. amendments to the pre consultation urban speed limit proposals were recommended.

Report amends 17no. locations that were originally advertised as either Periodic 30 km/h school speed limits or 50 km/h speed limits to Permanent 30 km/h speed limits.

Safer urban environments, particularly at schools and areas with high levels of pedestrian and cycling activity

Public Consultation Process

Elected Member Consultations:

SDCC held 4no. additional workshops (September) with the elected members to discuss the Public Consultation submissions and the SDCC responses and recommendations to the submissions.

SDCC shared the revised Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026 with an Garda Síochána, the NTA, the TII and our neighbouring Local Authorities.

An Interactive Map is available for people to examine the proposed Special Speed Limits Bye-Laws 2026

[SDCC Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026](#)

Recommendation and Resolution

The Chief Executive recommends the making of the proposed South Dublin County Council Special Speed Limit Bye-Laws 2026. The proposed speed limits will provide a balanced and evidence-based approach to speed management throughout South Dublin County and will contribute to improved road safety, particularly for pedestrians, cyclists, school children and other vulnerable road users.

Resolution

That South Dublin County Council approve the proposed ‘South Dublin County Council Special Speed limit Bye-Laws 2026’ as shown on the accompanying interactive mapping system and schedules forming part of the proposed Bye-Laws.