

SPEED LIMITS

COMMUNITY FACT SHEET

It's all part of Council's plan

Brisbane City Council is committed to ensuring the safety of motorists, pedestrians and cyclists across our city's road network.

This commitment aligns with Council's *Transport Plan for Brisbane – Strategic Directions* to provide safe transport options for travel in Brisbane. Motorists travelling above the posted speed limit can severely affect the safety of all road users. This fact sheet has information about speed limits and how they are applied across Brisbane's road network.

What are speed limits?

Speed limits are the maximum speed which drivers must operate their vehicles at or below on roads. In Brisbane and throughout the rest of Queensland, speed limits may be signed or unsigned. It is therefore important all drivers are familiar with the road rules, especially those relating to speed limits. Travelling above or even too far below speed limits can cause traffic incidents. Abiding by the speed limit ensures residents and visitors can enjoy a safe, efficient and reliable road network.

Why are speed signs installed in some streets but not others?

The Queensland road rules set a default speed limit of 50 km/h in built-up areas and 100 km/h outside built-up areas. As this is law, signs do not have to be installed.

Most of Brisbane is a built-up area. In a built-up area, buildings and/or street lights are not more than 100 m apart. If you do not see a sign, you should assume that the speed limit is 50 km/h.

The cost of installing signs in every street is very high. They can also add unnecessary footpath clutter and can divert motorists' attention away from important warning signs which are needed to highlight road safety hazards.

To manage travel around Brisbane, some roads are signed with different speed limits. Higher speed limits are used, where appropriate, to help move people and goods around the city efficiently. Lower speed limits are installed in areas where there is the possibility for conflict between pedestrians, cyclists and vehicles. These areas could be at schools, and through busy shopping and commercial areas.

CBD speed limit

The CBD speed limit is 40 km/h. This excludes Turbot Street and part of Ann Street which are 60 km/h ensuring traffic flows more efficiently.

For a full listing of the CBD streets included in the 40 km/h zone, please visit Council's website and search 'CBD speed limit'.



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

How are speed limits enforced?

Council receives many enquiries about speeding drivers, however Council is not authorised to enforce speed limits.

The Queensland Police Service enforces speed limits using hand held radars and mobile patrols. On major roads, fixed or roadside speed cameras may also be used. Police enforcement is a good way of managing deliberate speeding behaviour.

If you are concerned about speeding or other anti-social driver behaviour in your local area, please call the Queensland Police Service Hoon Hotline on **13HOON (13 4666)**. When phoning, please provide details including the make, model, colour and registration number of the offending vehicle, or the days and times when hooning and speeding is likely to occur as this will help Police with their investigations. You can also report hooning online via the Queensland Police website or contact your local police station. Visit police.qld.gov.au for details.

How are speed limits set?

Speed limits in Queensland are set in accordance with strict guidelines determined by the Queensland Government to ensure limits are consistent and credible. When determining a speed limit, the following factors are considered:

- the road hierarchy
- existing traffic speeds
- the number and configuration of traffic lanes
- road geometry
- adjacent development and property access
- the amount of on-road parking
- traffic signals
- crash history.

Can I request a speed limit change?

A speed limit may be reviewed. It will only be changed following a formal speed limit review using the same factors used to set the speed limit. Some reasons to change the speed limit could be:

- new property redevelopment
- traffic management changes
- changes to road characteristics for example road widening or changes to lane configurations.

Once a speed limit investigation has been completed, the findings and all of the associated data is submitted to the local Speed Management Committee for consideration. The Speed Management Committee comprises representatives from the:

- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Queensland Police Service
- Brisbane City Council.

The speed limit will be altered by Council as per the committee's decision.

Slow down

Drivers who speed are not necessarily people from outside your neighbourhood. Most are neighbours and friends; responsible people who are committed to safe and peaceful neighbourhoods.

Local residents and businesses can work together to address speeding issues.

Talk to your neighbour or participate in community organisations such as Neighbourhood Watch. These interactions remind each other of the mutual responsibility drivers have to the safety of residents, particularly children living in the community.

Alternatively, speak to your local ward office to investigate the possibility of a speed awareness monitor in your street.

Council's speed awareness monitors display the motorist's speed when passing. The monitors, known as 'SAM', promote safety through driver awareness and help to minimise speeding on neighbourhood roads.

