

**From:** Bruce Laffer [<mailto:blaffer@bigpond.com>]  
**Sent:** Sunday, 25 November 2012 2:52 PM  
**To:** Tom Wise  
**Subject:** Fw: Speed Limit Consutation

Dear Mr. Wise

The following was sent last month to Kingborough Council in response to their request for public comment on the proposed speed limit reduction. Although it contains some thoughts particularly relevant to Kingborough, I feel that it makes a useful contribution to the debate. I would be grateful if you could bring this email to the attention of the Select Committee. Many thanks.

**From:** [Bruce Laffer](#)  
**Sent:** Friday, October 05, 2012 1:05 PM  
**To:** [kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au](mailto:kc@kingborough.tas.gov.au)  
**Subject:** Speed Limit Consutation

This is from Bruce Laffer, 44 Derwent Ave Margate.

In my opinion, ALL your sealed roads in non-urban areas should maintain a 100kph blanket limit.

It worries me that in some official circles there seems to be an assumption that the road toll will be reduced if ALL drivers in ALL situations are held to lower speeds. There might be some theoretical validity in this view, but if taken to its logical conclusion we should do without cars entirely, or restrict them to a truly safe speed of say 15kph.

There are many sections of many roads where speeds even greater than 100kph will be quite safe if drivers are sensible, sober and drive to the conditions. Many bends on these same roads can only be safely entered at speeds MUCH lower than 100kph. We don't label each and every one of these bends with a statutory limit, or reduce the limit on the entire road to a speed which is safe on its sharpest bend; we expect drivers to use their commonsense. This is why we test them before giving them a licence!

Just in passing: according to the approach signs on the B68 coming from Margate, or coming on the bypass from Hobart, the statutory limit for the new roundabout at Huntingfield is 80kph. Do you think that sensible drivers exercise their "right" to enter this roundabout at 80kph? No, they drive at a lower, safe speed for this situation, just as they would on a bend on a rural road where the overall limit is 100kph.

A limit of 100kph is realistic and safe for most parts of most roads for the vast majority of drivers. If drivers are stupid they will eventually have an accident no matter what the limit, if indeed they obey it.

I hope you find this useful.