

Submission from 20's plenty

At face value 20s plenty is merely about cars driving slower to reduce serious injury and fatalities of which there are more than 500 annually in Birmingham annually

However it misses the point if you believe the population driving round the city in their Teslas or other electric cars solves our city's problems.
All cars are a major source of greenhouse emissions (electric cars have 12 tons of embedded emissions)

20's plenty is really about policy makers understanding that, at least in urban settings, cars should be designed out of the equation with concepts like 15 minute cities <https://www.15minutecity.com> Vision Zero <https://visionzeronetwork.org/about/what-is-vision-zero/> and 880 cities <https://www.880cities.org> becoming reality rather than convenient and empty soundbites.

We don't have long!

By 2030 if we don't have carbon emissions down by 45% as per the IPCC report in 2019 <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/> then the consequences are dire and with polar icecaps dwindling irreversibly and ultra toxic methane emissions being released from the Tundra. This will make the current conflicts, droughts, wildfires, floods and forced migration appear trivial

Cars, electric or otherwise, also cause debt, air pollution, social isolation and as well as KSI's more significantly cause thousands of 'slow deaths' due to weight gain and lack of exercise which are inevitable consequences of sitting in a car for hours

Our city is very inactive and unhealthy with 45% of our adults being inactive and 55% of our children. The NHS doesn't need loads more doctors and nurses it need fewer patients, 40% which are due to the toxic combination of inactivity, obesity and misery

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld201617/ldselect/ldnhssus/151/15109.htm>

This accounts for 45,000 of the 120,000 people on waiting lists in Birmingham and the Councils burgeoning adult social care bill

You must disincentivise car ownership now because as soon as somebody owns a car they will drive it frequently to get a return on their investment and often drive it dangerously.

Public transport, active travel and localism are one of the main ways to achieve equity in this city

Ewan Hamnett

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