

Councillor West
Chair of the Environment, Sustainability
& Transport Committee
Kings House
Grand Avenue
Hove, BN3 2LS

Councillor Sue Shanks
Chair of Children & Young People Committee
Brighton & Hove City Council
Kings House
Grand Avenue
Hove, BN3 2LS

17 February 2014

Dear Councillor West

Re: Review of 20mph Speed Limit Zone

As Chair of the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee, I would like you to accept this letter for consideration by the Committee at its meeting on the 4th March 2014.

I would like the committee to reconsider its decision to remove Stanford Avenue, Preston Drove and Surrenden Rd from the extended 20mph speed limit zone.

In my capacity as Chair of the Children and Young Peoples Committee I am concerned that young people have safe routes to school. We want to encourage young people to walk and cycle to school. Surrenden road is crossed by children and young people going to Varndean College, Dorothy Stringer and Varndean secondary schools and Balfour Primary. There is no safe crossing point.

I have been contacted by many residents of Withdean ward, which contains Surrenden Road, concerned particularly about this road and the number of children who use it going to school. As the ward councillor I recently asked peoples opinion on Surrenden Road. On the day I was knocking on doors cars were speeding past me. The existing speed limit of 30 mph is often broken and I feel a decisive move needs to be made to limit speed, before someone is injured crossing there.

The local community has shown strong support for a 20mph speed limit on these roads via the recent petition on this matter presented to Full Council.

Professional road safety Officers and campaigners for safer streets support the move towards 20mph in residential areas. There is compelling evidence to show that fatalities and injuries are reduced, walking and cycling become more attractive and the street environment feels more pleasant for all users. All three roads are not only routes for cars but more importantly they are places where people live and have a sense of community. Young people also use Preston drove for example going to the tennis club there or the cycling track.

I strongly support the desire of the local community for the introduction of 20mph speed limits to all roads designated in the original proposal presented to Committee.

Please reconsider your decision.



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Chair of Children & Young People Committee
Green Party Councillor for Withdean Ward