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Lt Col Tex Pemberton OBE
Cabinet Office
West Wing County Hall
Chichester
West Sussex
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Dear Councillor

We were interested to see your reported comments in the West Sussex County Times about the possibilities for a more flexible approach to speed limits with the new guidelines.

The Horsham Society has been pressing unsuccessfully for a long time for the introduction of a 40 mph speed limit in Hammerpond Road. This road is a narrow winding country lane providing access for Horsham residents to attractive wooded countryside and is much used by pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders and joggers who are currently put at risk by unacceptably fast traffic. Until now we have been told that the accident rate does not justify the introduction of a speed limit. We have always debated the wisdom of a policy that says people have to be killed before obviously necessary improvements are made and we were therefore heartened to see you refer to it now being possible to take account of special circumstances including the needs of vulnerable road users such as the those that use Hammerpond Road.

We should be grateful if you would therefore ask your officers to give early consideration to the introduction of an appropriate speed limit in Hammerpond Road. We previously sought a 40 mph limit because we thought that was best that might be possible but under your new policy it would be worth considering a lower limit, at least in the most dangerous sections of the road.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

John Steele
Chairman