



**Please reply to:** Mrs Frances Hughes,  
Assistant Director (Community & Customer  
Services), c/o Town Hall, Castle Circus,  
TORQUAY, TQ1 3DR

Mr and Mrs Mooney  
2 Plantation Way  
The Willows  
Torquay  
TQ2 7SR

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**Date:** 26 May 2016

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Dear Mr and Mrs Mooney

**Petition – Centenary Way, The Willows, Torquay  
- to request to reduce the current 30mph speed limit to 20mph**

Thank you for the petition considered by Full Council at its meeting on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May 2016.

I note from our records that this is an issue which has been raised on previous occasions over several years and there have been a number of meetings on site involving local councillors and the Police.

Centenary Way is already traffic calmed and does not carry through traffic, only vehicles visiting / delivering to properties within the Willows estate.

There was a traffic survey undertaken in Centenary Way during 2014. This type of survey is designed to identify if there was a problem with speeding drivers and if this was so, then the Police would be informed of the results. If it was then deemed appropriate, the Police may arrange for some targeted enforcement to be carried out.

In the case of Centenary Way, the survey recorded results of 31.8 mph 85<sup>th</sup> percentile and a median of 27.0 mph; therefore there is no current justification to look into reducing the speed limit on Centenary Way and little to suggest that there is a speeding problem for Devon and Cornwall Police to enforce. There may be an occasional driver / rider who travels above the speed limit; however these figures show they are in the minority.

The recorded results show that very high vehicle speeds are very much a perception. The loud noise from 'performance' exhausts, probably leading more to a type of anti social behaviour. Unfortunately if such vehicles are using illegally noisy exhausts, this is a Police matter, albeit one which is very difficult to enforce. I have spoken with the Councils Road Safety Officer regarding this matter, and she confirms that she has raised this issue with Sgt Scott Bellingham, the local

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If you require this in a different format or language, please contact me.

Police Neighbourhood Team Leader for the Willows area. Sgt Bellingham is aware of the problem and has organised a number of operations to combat this in his area.

However, given that this survey was undertaken some time ago, it would now seem appropriate to undertake another one to determine whether or not the situation has changed. The Council will aim to do this within the next three months.

Torbay Council takes the issue of road safety extremely seriously. Our priorities are set by elected members annually, based on evidence based criteria including collision, speed history and priorities from its Local Transport Plan. The members of the Transport Working Party agree the schemes for each financial year. Elected Members have requested that officers prepare a report for the next meeting of the Transport Working Party (June 2016) regarding the possible implementation of 20mph limits / zones within residential areas of Torbay. However, unless additional funding is obtained then the short to medium term position is that the speed limits will remain unchanged.

Thank you for raising your concerns with us and the Council will be in touch to advise on the outcome of the traffic survey.

Yours sincerely



**FRANCES HUGHES**

Assistant Director

Community & Customer Services