



[REDACTED]

Coroners Court Officer

Sent by email: MKMAdmin@kent.gov.uk

Highways, Transportation & Waste
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX

Tel: 03000 418181
Our Ref: 15814447
Date: 04 April 2017

Dear [REDACTED]

Re: Coroners Regulation 28 Report

Kent County Council makes this response formerly to the Coroners' Regulation 28 report following the incident on Pilgrims Way, north of Eccles, Kent on 29th November 2016.

We are always extremely saddened to hear of fatalities on Kent's roads, particularly so when the deceased was so young and when it appears to be unexplained why the driver left the carriageway in this way.

The road is narrow and unlit and is bordered by hedgerows and trees. In its context as a 'de-restricted' dual carriageway the speed limit is 70mph, however it should be noted that the speed limit is the absolute maximum speed - it doesn't mean it is safe to drive at this speed in all conditions. Notwithstanding this, in response to the incident and the very clear coroner recommendation, Kent County Council will be programming a scheme to reduce the speed limit of the road to 50mph.

In order to ensure that introducing a speed limit of 50mph does not lead to an increase in safety concerns, Kent County Council will also investigate a Crash Remedial Measure to seek to improve the 'safety' of this dual carriageway; this may include additional signs, lines and barriers although the exact composition will be determined by a full and proper study. We must be mindful when introducing a 50mph speed limit that the presence of 'repeater signs' does not encourage high speeds, as there may be sections of this road that may not be safe to drive at that speed, especially for an inexperienced driver.

Once again I would like to offer my heartfelt sympathy to the family of the deceased.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Rhini', written in a cursive style.

Director of Highways, Transportation & Waste