Geoff Raw Chief Executive Brighton & Hove City Council Grand Avenue Hove

07/03/2016

Dear Geoff

Bush Farm Drive, Downs Park Estate, North Portslade

I am submitting the following letter under Council Procedure Rule 23.3 to be included on the agenda for the Environment, Transport & Sustainability Committee meeting of 15th March 2016.

Bush Farm Drive is a crescent shaped road with two entrances/exits into and out of the Downs Park estate in North Portslade. These are the only two entrances and exits from the estate on to and from Fox Way. Fox Way, in turn, is the main route for many Mile Oak/North Portslade residents driving on to or across the A293 link road.

Residents of the estate have been reporting problems with speeding cars on Bush Farm Drive for some years now. This is because some drivers turn into Bush Farm Drive at the top end of Fox Way and emerge at the other end of the road back out on to Fox Way in an attempt to save time. The problem seems to be most acute between 7 and 9 in the morning.

For the past few months this issue has become much more serious with large tailbacks building up at the lower end of Bush Farm Drive as drivers coming down Fox Way refuse to let people out as they assume they are trying to "traffic jump". This means that residents of the Downs Park Estate often find it difficult to get out on to Fox Way in a timely fashion.

The tail back, however, does not stop motorists speeding into Bush Farm Drive and hurtling around the crescent shaped road until they meet the built up traffic.

Some months ago a resident had her car badly damaged by such a speeding motorist. The Downs Park estate has a lot of families with children and residents are understandably upset and concerned at the potential danger posed by speeding motorists.

I recently called on a number of residents on the estate and this was the most significant and serious issue that people wanted to talk about. Some residents reported that they had challenged motorists who eventually slowed down due to the tailback emerging out on to Fox Way only to be met with a barrage of abuse.

We also received reports of busses being held up in the tailback of traffic.

Can I ask that the Council's Road Safety Team conduct an urgent traffic survey at busy times in Bush Farm Drive. This would then allow for consideration of what

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measures could be implemented to deal with this problem on a permanent and lasting basis.

I would, of course, be happy to meet with the team on site and assist in any way I can.

Yours

Cllr Peter Atkinson North Portslade