



**Government  
of South Australia**

Office of the  
Minister for Police  
Minister for Correctional Services  
Minister for Emergency Services  
Minister for Road Safety  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Level 2, 45 Pirie Street  
Adelaide SA 5000

GPO Box 1563  
Adelaide SA 5001  
DX 128

Tel 08 8463 6611  
Fax 08 8463 6642

12MRS/0429

Mr John Tons  
Chairperson  
Lenswood and Forest Range Community Association  
C/- Post Office  
LENSWOOD SA 5420

Dear Mr Tons

Thank you for your email on behalf of the Lenswood and Forest Range Community Association, concerning road safety on Lobethal Road in Lenswood and Forest Range.

I am advised by the Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) that Lobethal Road is typical of many roads in the Adelaide Hills in terms of its design. This includes it operating with one lane in each direction, often with little or no road shoulder with sections of steep and winding roads. The low speed curves are well delineated with advisory speed signing and barrier lines are provided where warranted by reduced sight distance.

I note your comments regarding speed zoning within townships in the Adelaide Hills. In March 2003, the default urban speed limit changed from 60 km/h to 50 km/h. This change saw the speed limit on the majority of local roads, controlled and managed by Local Government, reduced to 50 km/h. Main roads through the Hills and country towns are under the management of the State Government as the primary role of these roads is to provide an urban traffic route. They carry significantly higher volumes of commuter and freight traffic than the adjacent local road network and as a result, the majority of these roads retained the original 60 km/h speed limit. It is essential that speed limits, as with all forms of traffic control, be applied in a consistent and uniform manner which conform to the guidelines determined by *Australian Standards*. Speed limits are set with regard to factors including adjacent roadside development, road type, vehicle volumes and sight distances.



DPTI has been progressively reviewing speed limits in the main streets of townships when requested by the community. In the case of Lenswood, the 60 km/h speed limit applies as the road section is set in a rural environment with a low level of roadside development. Aside from the Lenswood Primary School, development within the 60 km/h speed limit is scattered and generally limited to the intersections of Lobethal Road with Swamp Road and Tiers Road.

When considering the above factors, the speed limits at Forest Range and Lenswood are considered appropriate and consistent with those applied on similar winding, semi-rural roads throughout the Adelaide Hills. Therefore, no changes are proposed at this time by DPTI.

Comments have been sought from the Adelaide Hills Council on the proposal to reduce the speed limit between Harris Road and Tiers Road to 50 km/h. Council supports DPTI's assessment that the current speed limits are appropriate. Should a request from the Council arise, I am told this would be reconsidered.

A speed limit is only intended to provide a legal maximum limit but it is essential that every road user drives at a safe enough speed to control their vehicle and negotiate the road. Drivers should also drive to road and weather conditions which may include reducing the travelling speed accordingly.

On 3 August 2012, DPTI reviewed the traffic and safety conditions at this location. The review found that there were eight children warning signs between Harris Road and Tiers Road. DPTI has advised that the children warning signs on both approaches to the Lenswood Primary School will be upgraded to fluorescent yellow green signs. I am pleased to advise these signs will be installed by the end of September 2012.

The school zone signs are duplicated on both approaches and are in good condition and installed correctly.

DPTI considers that the current school zone and the 25 km/h speed limit when children present in conjunction with the upgraded advance warning of the school zone is appropriate at this time. I am told they will continue to monitor the safety of pedestrians and all road users to ensure a safe environment is provided.

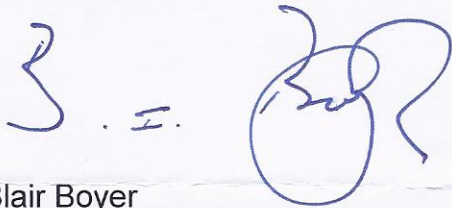
An advance fire station warning sign is only to be used to warn of fire stations where it may not be readily apparent that a station exists for either the Metropolitan Fire Services or the Country Fire Services.

The Country Fire Services station at Lenswood is located on the inside of a curve on Lobethal Road near the intersections with Cold Store Road and Tiers Road. A review undertaken by DPTI revealed that the Station's access was readily apparent to motorists travelling from Lobethal. However, because of the curve, the access is not readily apparent for motorists travelling from Adelaide. DPTI will install an advance fire station warning sign on the Adelaide approach on Lobethal Road by the end of September 2012.

I am advised by DPTI that Tiers Road and Cold Store Road are both local roads that come under the care, control and management of the Adelaide Hills Council. I have therefore sent a copy of your letter with your request for warning signs with built in alternating flashing yellow lights on these roads to Council for a direct response to you. Council has been granted general approval under the *Road Traffic Act 1961* to install warning signs on a road which is under its care, control and management. DPTI does not need to approve the installation of warning signs with flashing yellow lights.

Thank you for bringing these matters to my attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Blair Boyer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Blair Boyer  
Chief of Staff to the  
**MINISTER FOR ROAD SAFETY**

24/9/2012