

Caroline Pidgeon MBE AM

City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London SE1 2AA
Tel: 020 7983 4362

Sophie Linden
Deputy Mayor for Policing and Crime
[By Email]

20 April 2020

Dear Sophie,

Re: Speeding in London During Lockdown and Community Speedwatch Online Update

I am writing to highlight the growing issue of speeding in London, particularly during the current COVID-19 crisis. You will be aware of significant increases in vehicles reported speeding through London since the lockdown began, and I am sure you share my concerns over this matter.

Firstly, I was very pleased to see the launch of the Met's Road Crimes Team last week in response to the increases in road crime and speeding since lockdown. This sort of quick and decisive action should be congratulated. I have been following their work with great interest and the impact the team have had is already clear.

Back in 2015 I asked a Mayoral Question to the former Mayor about the possibility of a *Community Speedwatch Online* scheme (the Mayoral Question and answer can be found [here](#)). In the answer the former Mayor said that consideration would be given to automated schemes such as *Community Speedwatch Online*, which would automatically record who speeds when and where. Following this question, and with the issue of speeding being very much back on the agenda, I have several questions I would be grateful if you could answer:

- What progress has been made on the *Community Speedwatch Online* initiative since the former Mayor said it would be considered in 2015, and is such a scheme now being seriously considered under the current Mayor?
- If such an online scheme does materialise, how will you work with boroughs to decide on issues such as funding and placement?
- What resources do the Road Crimes Team currently have at their disposal (in terms of officers and equipment etc), and can you confirm whether any officers have been moved back to road crimes from serious violence?
- Although I am pleased with the work that is taking place to curb speeding during lockdown, it is essential this important work continues. How are you and the Mayor working with the police to tackle the serious issue of speeding in the longer-term?
- I have also received reports across London of speeding motorbikes and potential motorbike racing taking place. Can you confirm what is being done to curb this kind of dangerous and irresponsible activity?

I look forward to your reply.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Pidgeon', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Caroline Pidgeon AM
Liberal Democrat Assembly Member