



**Submission on Tasman District Council
Proposed Speed Limit Change for Queen
Street and Sundial Square, Richmond**

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Introduction

1. Nelson Marlborough Health (Nelson Marlborough District Health Board) (NMH) is a key organisation involved in the health and wellbeing of the people within Te Tau Ihu. NMH appreciates the opportunity to comment from a public health perspective on the Tasman District Council (TDC) Proposed Speed Limit Change for Queen Street and Sundial Square, Richmond.
2. NMH makes this submission in recognition of its responsibilities to improve, promote and protect the health of people and communities under the New Zealand Public Health and Disability Act 2000 and the Health Act 1956.
3. This submission sets out particular matters of interest and concern to NMH including around pedestrian and cycle safety.

Support for the proposal

4. NMH supports TDC's plans to reduce speed limits along Queen Street and in Sun Dial Square from 50km to 30km. Speed affects the likelihood and impact of all crashes. Small reductions in impact speeds greatly increase the chances of surviving a crash, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists. The Ministry of Transport's Safer Journey report¹ shows that there is a 10% probability of death for pedestrians struck by cars travelling at 30km compared with 50% probability for pedestrians struck by cars travelling at 45km. Lower speed limits will create a safer environment for everybody.
5. NMH is aware of inner city speed limit changes in other regions causing public confusion. As such, NMH recommends that TDC investigates the level of 30km signage appropriate for the proposed areas to ensure that drivers are aware of the slower speed zones. Larger signs or entrance ways could be used to mark the designated areas.

Conclusion

6. NMH thanks the TDC for the opportunity to comment on the Proposed Speed Limit Change for Queen Street and Sundial Square, Richmond.
7. NMH supports the proposed speed limit change and recommends that reduced speed zones are delineated by appropriate signage or entrance ways.

Yours sincerely



Peter Bramley

Chief Executive

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¹ <http://www.saferjourneys.govt.nz/assets/Safer-journeys-files/SaferJourneyStrategy.pdf>
page 2