

## **TOWN SQUARE SHARED ZONE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q.** What is the speed limit through the Town Square shared zone?

**A.** Motorists must drive through the area at 10km/h, which is close to the walking speed for most pedestrians.

**Q.** Do drivers have to give way to pedestrians crossing the Town Square?

**A.** A Shared Zone is a non - road space that is shared safely between pedestrians and vehicles. This means that all vehicles must give way to all pedestrians.

**Q.** Why are the new speed humps necessary?

**A.** The shared zone has been designed and installed in accordance with the Roads and Maritime Service technical directions. Unfortunately many motorists have not been complying with the speed limit and have not given way to pedestrians, which has resulted in near misses being reported to Council. From a risk management perspective, Council had to take action in exercising its duty of care towards pedestrians. The speed humps have been very effective in reducing the speed of traffic below 10 kph.

**Q.** What is the best way to approach the speed humps in a car?

**A. Slowly.**

**Q.** Why do the speed humps generate noise when I drive over them?

**A.** Council chose non steel speed humps particularly to avoid the noise generated by speed humps. Unfortunately vehicles with loose loads, and trailers, do still generate significant noise which affects local businesses and Council staff who work in the immediate vicinity, particularly if vehicles travel at excessive speed. Council is monitoring the noise levels over time to see if noise reduces as motorists learn to reduce speed through the area.

**The success of a Shared Zone depends on community involvement and participation.**