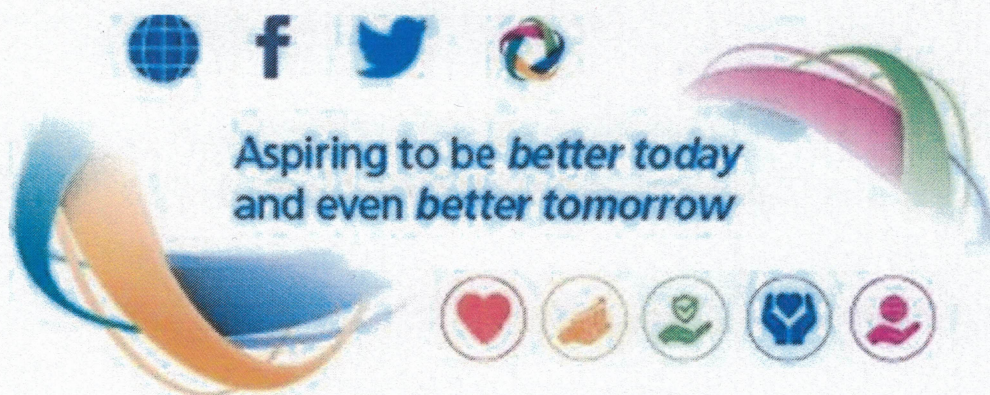


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From: Greg Smith
Sent: 31 December 2019 14:39
To: Eddie Thomas
Subject: RE: First Responders

Dear Eddie

Thank you for your email and I do apologise that we have not responded to you before now.

The Trust is supportive of any decision which is made by the relevant authorities to improve road safety. Ambulances attending an emergency call may claim exemptions to the Road Traffic Act, this may include exceeding statutory speed limits where safe to do so. Any driver claiming exemptions from the Road Traffic Act would have completed an approved programme of emergency response driver training - for new entrants to the Trust this is of 4 weeks duration.

Community First Responders are volunteers who utilise their own vehicles to respond to emergencies within their local area. They are required to obey road traffic regulations and are not entitled to claim any exemptions. For this reason we would expect them to abide by any speed limit in place.

I have today spoken with the team leader of the Faversham Community First Responders and discussed the matter. I understand that whilst some members of the team do have concerns that the proposed 20mph zones may delay their response to patients, the CFR team has no intent to oppose these plans. Of course individual members of the team may choose to voice their personal opinion and have every right to do so, but their views would not be representative of the stance taken by the CFR team or the Trust.

Best wishes
Greg

Greg Smith
Voluntary Services Manager