



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(Elmbridge)**

**LETTER OF REPRESENTATION
The Woodlands / Woodend / Grove Way**

19th September 2011

KEY ISSUE

To update the Committee on conclusions and recommendations made, following a Letter of Representation being submitted to this Committee.

SUMMARY

This report informs members on investigations carried out following safety concerns raised by residents of The Woodlands, Woodend and Grove Way, Esher. The report has been updated further to two meetings with the Local Member as requested at the previous Committee Meeting.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note that work will be undertaken to improve the clarity of road markings and improved signage installed to provide suitable warning to highway users of the junction.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 A letter of representation has been submitted to this Committee, signed by 407 signatories from local residents. The full details are as follows:

“We the undersigned do hereby petition Surrey County Council to urgently undertake the road safety improvements to the crossroads of Woodend, The Woodlands and Grove Way (Esher) identified within Appendix A to this petition and thereby comply with its duty of care to pedestrian, cyclists, residents and motorists. For the avoidance of doubt, the road safety improvements required of SCC in this petition are in addition to the double yellow lines at the crossroads, approved subject to consultation, by SCC at its 1st March 2010 Local Committee meeting.”

- 1.2 The Woodlands junction is in a predominantly residential area to the North of Sandown. The B3379 Ember Lane runs to the East and anecdotal evidence suggests the junction may be being used as a cut through by vehicles seeking to avoid the A307 Porstmouth Rd.
- 1.3 The location is subject to a 30mph speed limit. There is a HGV restriction in place prohibiting use of the route by HGVs between 10 PM & 6 AM. Sandown Industrial Park is located nearby to the West off Mill Rd and is trip generator for HGVs. There are currently no waiting restrictions in place at the Woodlands junction however at the time of writing these are on order at it is anticipated that they will be installed shortly.
- 1.4 The County Council database, supplied by Surrey Police, of personal injury collisions shows that, in the 36 months to the end of September 2010 (the latest date for which figures are available) there have been 4 personal injury collisions, all slight in nature, two of which involved right turn in to the Woodlands and two involved overrunning the junction. There are also local reports of a more recent serious collision however this is not yet registering on the database.
- 1.5 At the previous Local Committee meeting, officers were asked to meet with the Local Member, arrange a site visit and report back to Committee, these meetings have occurred and the previously submitted report revised accordingly.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 Further to a site visit involving road safety officers, highway officer and police it is clear there is scope to improve the signing and lining in place and this work has been ordered. Give Way signage is being renewed at the Junction as well as notification of the Weight Restriction. Directional signage for the industrial estate will also be introduced on the B3379.

- 2.2 There is no vehicular flow or speed data available for this junction. However, site observations indicate that average speeds are in keeping with what speeds are expected in a 30mph speed limit.

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 The petitioners also requested 'Stop Lines and Signs' to be introduced here. Such installation requires DfT authority and is it considered that this would be very unlikely to be given, given the low numbers of personal injury collisions and experience of other locations where authority has been sought but not given. It is considered that refreshing the lines in place as well improved signage and the introduction of waiting restrictions should improve the situation. However, the site will continue to be monitored following improvements being made.
- 3.2 Having visited the surrounding area as well the site itself it is clear that the HGV restriction signage requires review. This scheme will be discussed with Members when developing the Programme for next year given that all budgets are currently allocated for this year.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 This report is being considered following the request of residents within this area.
- 4.2 The location was visited and reviewed by the Casualty Reduction Working Group involving the Police, Road Safety Officers and Highways Officers.
- 4.3 The issues have been discussed with the Local Member and a separate site visit held.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 It is anticipated that the work required will be low in cost and will therefore be funded within the budgets available locally.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities and diversity implications arising from this report.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Further to site investigation it is proposed that refreshment of Give Way Lining and improved signing should occur, specifically renewing the Give

Way signs and HGV restriction signs. The Council regularly reviews collisions across the County and this location will be monitored following the improvements made.

8.1 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 The works have been ordered. Following these improvements and the introduction of proposed waiting restrictions the site will be monitored to ensure the interventions are effective.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: none