



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE
(REIGATE AND BANSTEAD)**

**PRICES LANE / ALEXANDER ROAD, WOODHATCH
- PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN REFUGE**

21 SEPTEMBER 2009

KEY ISSUE

To consider the introduction of a pedestrian refuge island in Alexander Road at the junction with Prices Lane.

SUMMARY

The provision of a pedestrian refuge island in Alexander Road at the junction with Prices Lane is included in the Reigate & Banstead District five-year programme of Integrated Transport schemes, as approved by Local Committee on 20 July 2009. The headway of Alexander Road is approximately 15 metres wide at the point where a pedestrian would cross if walking along Prices Road. The provision of a pedestrian refuge island would improve pedestrian safety and help reduce the speed of vehicles turning into Alexander Road.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) is asked to agree that:

- (i) Consultation be carried out with local residents and the emergency services regarding the introduction of a pedestrian refuge island in Alexander Road at the junction with Prices Lane.
- (ii) Subject to consultation and detailed design, the pedestrian refuge island as shown in Annex A be approved for construction.
- (iii) Authority be delegated to the East Area Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local elected

Member to resolve any representation received as a result of the consultation.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Prices Lane, Woodhatch forms part of the walking route to three local schools in the area; Orchards School in Alexander Road, Sandcross County Middle School in Sandcross Lane and Reigate School in Woodhatch Road. There are a number of other facilities that generate pedestrian movement along Prices Lane, including local shops at the junction with the A23, a medical centre at the junction with Alexander Road and sheltered housing in Prices Lane.
- 1.2 The headway of Alexander Road is approximately 15 metres wide at the point where a pedestrian would cross when walking along Prices Lane. This is a very wide distance for pedestrians to cross in one movement, especially for those with mobility impairments and could act as a deterrent to walking.

2 PROPOSED MEASURES

- 2.1 The junction of Alexander Road with Prices Lane is included in the Reigate and Banstead District five-year programme of Integrated Transport schemes, as approved by Local Committee on 20 July 2009. Local Allocation funding has been set aside for the design and implementation of a pedestrian refuge island at this junction in 2009/10.
- 2.2 The provision of a pedestrian refuge island within the headway of Alexander Road will make crossing the road safer by enabling pedestrians to cross the road in two separate movements. Pedestrians will be able to wait in the centre of the road allowing them to concentrate their attention on one stream of approaching traffic at a time, with a shorter crossing distance to be negotiated. The pedestrian refuge island will also help to reduce the speed of vehicles turning into Alexander Road.
- 2.3 Tactile paving will be provided at the existing dropped crossings. A new lamp column will be installed on the pedestrian island with two arms to illuminate the crossing point. Annex A sets out the proposed location for the pedestrian refuge island.
- 2.4 The proposal will be subject to an independent Road Safety Audit which will identify any safety issues that need to be taken into account in the final design of the island.

3 CONSULTATION

- 3.1 No consultation has been carried out at this stage. The proposed pedestrian refuge island will not impact directly on any residents but it is proposed to consult those residents within a 25 metre radius of the new island. The views of the Borough Members for the area and the emergency services will also be sought. The design will be subject to an independent Road Safety Audit which will identify any safety issues that need to be taken into account.

4 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 At its meeting held on 20 July 2009 the Local Committee approved funding of £15,000 from the Local Allocation budget for the design and implementation of a pedestrian refuge at the junction of Alexander Road with Prices Lane.
- 4.2 Due to the steady increase in raw materials since the forward plan budgets were being devised, a preliminary construction estimate has been provided based on the outline design drawing in Annex A. Unfortunately it indicates that there will be an overspend on this project of up to £5,000. Once the detailed design has been completed a final construction estimate will be required and this may well come within budget but this should not be assumed.

5 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 A pedestrian refuge island would incorporate tactile paving to assist the visually impaired.
- 5.2 There are no other perceived equality or diversity implications.

6 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 Improved street lighting through the provision of an additional lamp column on the pedestrian refuge island will help reduce the perception of crime and disorder.
- 6.2 There are no other perceived crime and diversity implications.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 A pedestrian refuge island in the wide headway of Alexander Road would enable pedestrians to cross in two halves, improving pedestrian safety and also help to reduce the speed of vehicles turning into Alexander Road
- 7.2 It is recommended that consultation is carried out with local residents and the emergency services on the proposal to construct a pedestrian refuge island at the junction of Alexander Road with Prices Lane, with

delegation of authority to the East Area Group Manager in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and local elected Member to resolve any issues arising from the consultation. Providing any issues arising from the consultation are successfully resolved, it is recommended that detailed design and implementation be carried out in accordance with the plan in Annex A.

8 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 The provision of a pedestrian refuge island in Alexander Road at the junction with Prices Lane would make crossing the road safer and help reduce the speed of vehicles turning into Alexander Road.

9 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- 9.1 If the Local Committee approves the recommendations, consultation will be carried out with local residents, Members and the emergency services. Providing any issues arising from the consultation are successfully resolved, detailed design will be undertaken and the scheme implemented early in January 2010

LEAD OFFICER:	Andrew Leitch Interim Local Highway Manager (Reigate & Banstead)
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	03456 009 009
E-MAIL:	east Surrey highways@surreycc.gov.uk
CONTACT OFFICER:	Anita Guy Engineer
TELEPHONE NUMBER:	03456 009 009
E-MAIL:	east Surrey highways@surreycc.gov.uk
BACKGROUND PAPERS:	Report to Local Committee 20 July 2009