



# **OBSTRUCTION OF A FOOTPATH AT THE SAINSBURY'S SITE IN CHERTSEY**

**4 June 2004**

## **KEY ISSUE:**

At the request of County Councillor Ray Lowther (Chertsey Division), the Committee is asked to consider requesting the reinstatement of a safe pedestrian route with clear and direct disabled access from the toilet facility and Guildford Street to the Sainsbury's Shopping Centre area in the vicinity of the fuel garage at the Sainsbury's site in Chertsey.

## **SUMMARY:**

A footpath on land owned by J Sainsbury PLC, and well used by shoppers and local residents as a route to the store from Guildford Street and to the toilet facility from the store has been blocked.

This is an impact of the decision to resite fuel filling pipes from another area in the vicinity of the garage forecourt area, into the middle of the footpath, which then has had a small wall constructed either side to prevent pedestrian access along the path.

Pedestrians and people with prams are currently stepping into the garage forecourt across traffic to go round the filling pipes before returning to the path. This is a particular issue to users of wheel chairs who can no longer use the pathway at all, or if used would have extreme difficulty at the brick wall in returning to the start of the path to find another route, which would seem involve a long and dangerous route through the car park and across a busy road.

At a time when the fuel tanker is delivering in the site (it would park along the footpath to unload) it would be at best extremely dangerous, if not impossible for any individual to use a direct route through to Guildford Street from that area during this time.

There is also a high level of concern among residents that the new position of the pipes is dangerously close to an area that has been reported by local traders as being an area of anti social behaviour and fire starting.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**At the request of County Councillor Ray Lowther (Chertsey Division), the Committee is asked:**

- (i) That a letter be sent to Sainsbury's Management requesting the reinstatement of the safe access footpath from the Sainsbury's Centre through to the toilet block in the vicinity of the petrol filling station. This is of interest to local residents and store users, in particular those people who are disabled and requiring the use of a wheelchair.**

**Report by: Linda Neve, Local Committee and Partnership Officer-  
Runnymede**

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<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	<b>None</b>