



**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL LOCAL
COMMITTEE
PUBLIC QUESTIONS
December 16th 2005**

1. Question from Mr Alan Thorogood

“I would like to ask what was done to install the temporary priority system under the 12'3” railway bridge in Trumps Green Road, how was it monitored, was it judged to be a success, and what are the LTS plans for making this a permanent improvement?”

Answer from Surrey County Council’s Local Transportation Team

A temporary trial was undertaken in October 05. Staff monitored driver behaviour, conflict and queue lengths. A detailed technical assessment is yet to be completed. A full report will be brought back to this committee in 2006.

2. Question from Mr Gordon McCallum

“When will Surrey County Council be doing something to stop illegal motors and vans from using Egham High Street at the wrong times, causing all sorts of problems to those who believe it is "pedestrian" between 11.00 am and 4.00 pm?”

Answer from Surrey County Council’s Local Transportation Team

The above restriction was introduced in the early 1990’s. The purpose was to make this section of the High Street more pedestrian friendly, whilst still allowing essential vehicle access outside of the core hours to enable serving of the local businesses.

The restriction is fully signed, as described in the Highway Code. There is also a barrier, which prevents vehicles from using the road. For practical reasons it is not locked. There are a number of exceptions (funeral cars, statutory undertakers completing repair works, emergency service vehicles responding to a call etc) but the vast majority of vehicles are prevented from using the road Mon-Sat 11am to 4pm. The Police do have the necessary legal powers to enforce the restriction if they so choose.

Following a previous complaint, an extensive CCTV survey was completed in January 2004. From studying the tapes this revealed a generally good level of compliance. Problems occasional occur when the gate is left illegally open. Discussions were held with the Police following this survey. As this was investigated relatively recently it is not proposed to use any more resources pursuing this matter

3. Question from Mr & Mrs JH Confrey

“What is being done to protect my wife and myself at Edgell Close, Virginia Water – this year alone there have been five cars through our front fence, and we have asked for a crash barrier but RBC still put back wooden poles that a push bike could knock down, also what is being done about road safety in Stroude Road?”

Answer from Surrey County Council’s Local Transportation Team

“From examining our records, there have been no reported injury accidents at this location in the last three years. There may have been damage only accidents – these are not centrally recorded. It is recommended that Mr Confrey takes this matter up with the Borough Council, who are responsible for the property.

With regard to general safety on Stroude Road, Surrey Police recently installed speed monitoring apparatus (5 – 10 December 05). The apparatus was located in the 30mph section, near to the junction with Whitehall Farm Lane. This is thought to be the fastest section of the road, within the 30mph limit.

This has revealed that, in common with many roads throughout the country a number of drivers do exceed the posted speed limit. The average 24hr two way traffic flow was 6100 vehicles, travelling at a mean speed of 31.9 mph, and an 85th percentile speed of 37.6 mph. Vehicle speeds were comparable in both directions. The 85th percentile is the speed at which 85% of drivers travel at or below.

Stroude Road already benefits from inclusion in the Speed Poster campaign. Posters were last erected in May / June this year and the site will be further visited next year. This is an effective method of reminding drivers that they should not exceed the speed limit, which exists for good reasons.

Earlier this year (7 July) Surrey Police, together with Surrey County Council undertook a mobile enforcement education day. This is where speeding drivers are stopped, and educated through a variety of methods to the dangers of driving excessively fast.”

Item 4 TABLED

Between the 12-19 September, and then again from the 28 Sept- 11 Oct “SID” (Speed Indicating Device) was placed on the side of Stroude Road near to the junction with Hurst Road (in the 40mph section before the bends). If drivers travel at excess speed it flashes their speed and tells them to slow down. It was also in place on 21 – 29 Nov in the 30mph section, near the junction with Edgell Close.

In addition to all of the above measures Surrey Police do undertake mobile enforcement along Stroude Road and take action against offending drivers.

All injury accidents (which are reported to the Police) are stored on a central database. From analysing this information it is possible to identify accident clusters and trends. Resources can then be targeted to where they will have best effect. In the last three complete year period for which we have records (Oct 02 through to Sept 05) there have been a total of 6 injury accidents on the entire length of Stroude Road, excluding the junction with Sandhills Lane. Due to a recent serious accident, Stroude Road will be raised at an additional Accident Work Group meeting (consisting of Police and County Council road safety Officers) with a view to considering, what, if any improvements can be made. This is scheduled for later this month.