

Item 22

PARK ROAD PETITION RESPONSE

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)

9th March 2006

KEY ISSUE:

This report is to update Members on the response to the Park Road petition.

SUMMARY:

A petition concerning speeding traffic in Park Road was presented to the Local Committee (Surrey Heath) on 8th December 2006. A written response was set to the petitioners on 23rd February 2006.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Local Committee (Surrey Heath) notes the attached response.

CONSULTATION

1. None

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

2. Additional speed control measures will incur additional costs.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

3. None.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

4. Speeding is seen as a major crime and disorder issue in Surrey Heath by local people. The Local Transportation Service remains committed to working in partnership to tackle areas where speeding is a problem.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5. None.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS:	None
Number of Annexes:	1

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Mr P Cronk
Kiloran
Garfield Road
Camberley
Surrey
GU15 2JG

Our ref: D3532/ILH
Your ref:

23 February 2006

Dear Mr Cronk

**Response to a Petition
Vehicle Speed in Park Road, Camberley**

I refer to the petition that you presented to the Local Committee in Surrey Heath at its meeting on the 8th December 2005. Previously, the Committee has received an officer response to petitions at its next available meeting. However, as meetings are now only scheduled 4 times per year it was agreed that a written response would be provided. I apologise for the delay in the response, which is due to other work commitments.

A copy of this response will be listed on the agenda at the next Local Committee meeting.

Existing conditions

Park Road is a local distributor road and serves as a main access to Camberley Town Centre.

A speed survey was undertaken in 2005 and was undertaken as part of the scheme to implement the zebra crossing near to St Mary's Church. This showed that on the day of the survey the 85th percentile speeds (i.e. the speeds at which 85% of vehicles travel at or under), in both directions, were 32mph. No other reliable speed data is available but it is expected that vehicle speeds may be higher in other sections of the Park Road. As a result Surrey will obtain further speed data information, when resources allow, ascertaining a more accurate speed(s) for the length of Park Road.

Traffic Calming & Speed Management

Surrey policy permits physical traffic calming at locations where a speed related injury accident problem could be resolved. There is no such a problem in Park Road and a scheme to calm traffic is not deemed a priority at this time. Other physical measures to manage speed could be considered but can be costly. Therefore, it is essential to exhaust all other cost effective methods initially, such as the use of speed posters, interactive signing and targeted enforcement.

Speed Posters & Interactive Speed Signing

Park Road has previously benefited from the use of speed posters. These are moved around the District at regular intervals and will return to Park Road in the future. Interactive signing has been used at a location nearby and their use, in general, is positive. Interactive speed signing could certainly be considered for use in Park Road and the transportation service and the Police will discuss this further following the outcome of the speed data collection.

Furthermore, the local transportation service is currently reviewing its interactive speed signing and has a number of initiatives it would like to explore. One option being considered may suit Park Road, as the road characteristics are favourable. Other opportunities may therefore arise in the near future.

Community Speed Watch

Surrey Police have trialled and are now rolling out a programme of 'Community Speed Watch'. This initiative enables communities, to help themselves, where problems of speed are perceived or exist. Volunteer's undertake speed measurement of vehicles along an approved section or sections of road and then refer any offences back to the Police for issuing warnings to drivers. In cases where a vehicle is recorded frequently the Police may take then other appropriate action. The Police will provide training and all the necessary equipment for residents to undertake the roll. For further information residents should contact PC Mark Barry, Surrey Police Casualty Reduction Officer for Surrey Heath. He can be contacted on 0845 1252222.

Summary

The Local Transportation Service in association with the Police will:

1. Maintain Park Road on the programme as a speed poster site.
2. Obtain further speed data information, ascertaining a more accurate speed(s) for the length of Park Road.
3. Discuss the options for Park Road in respect of the use of Interactive Speed Signing following the results of (1) above.
4. Determine whether Park Road is suitable for a future trial of other interactive speed signs.
5. Monitor and record data accordingly ascertaining any benefit should the use of Interactive Speed Signs be agreed.

Yours sincerely

Ian Haller
Local Transportation Manager