

## **Item 23**

### **HIGH STREET, BAGSHOT & RED ROAD/HAMMOND SCHOOL, LIGHTWATER PETITION RESPONSES**

#### **SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)**

**8<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

#### **KEY ISSUE:**

This report updates members on the responses to the petitions presented to the Local Committee on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

#### **SUMMARY:**

Two petitions were presented to the Local Committee on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006. One concerned a request for a 20mph speed limit along High Street and Guildford Road, Bagshot, the other a request for a 40mph speed limit along Red Road and a 20 mph speed limit outside Hammond School, Lightwater.

Written responses were sent to the petition representatives on 12<sup>th</sup> February 2007 and 21<sup>st</sup> February 2007 respectively.

#### **OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

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

#### **CONSULTATION**

1. None.

#### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

2. Any future measures will incur additional costs.

#### **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

3. None.

#### **CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

4. None.

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<b>LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>Ian Haller, Local Transportation Manager</b>
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<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	<b>None</b>

Cllr V White  
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Bagshot  
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West Area Transportation Service  
Grosvenor House  
Cross Lanes  
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Surrey  
GU1 1FA

Our ref: B3029/ILH  
Your ref:

12<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Dear Cllr White

**Petition to review the Speed Limit on High Street and Guildford Road, Bagshot**

I refer to the petition, containing 432 signatures, presented to the Local Committee at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006. Surrey County Council will consider speed limit reviews in accordance with its speed management policies and seeks to ensure that limits are realistic and that changes are prioritised by need. This policy reflects the views of Stephen Ladyman, Government Transport Minister who whilst indicating a desire to review speed limits on A and B class roads acknowledges that Authorities '*be asked to give priority to any road with a poor casualty history – or where there is a widespread disregard for the current speed limit, especially where speed cameras are being considered*'.

Currently all 20 mph zones or speed limits in Surrey must influence driver speed sufficiently to be self-enforcing. This means some form of physical traffic calming being provided and proposals resulting in more than just simply altering the speed limit of the road.

I have reviewed High Street and Guildford Road, Bagshot in respect of their accident and casualty history. Between January 2003 and November 2006 there have been two injury accidents along the lengths of road, between the junction with the A30 London Road and the roundabout at New Road. The first accident occurred in May 2003 and involved a pedal cycle and the second in October 2004 a pedestrian. Neither accident had a recorded causation factor relating to speed.

Speed data was collected along the length of Guildford Road, Bagshot in 2006 between the 12<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> June, following complaints of speeding vehicles. This was obtained using a speed data recorder, covertly operated by the Police. The mean speeds recorded over the period were 29.5 mph in the westerly direction and 30 mph in the easterly direction. I do not consider that mean speeds along Bagshot High Street would exceed these figures. Given that there does not appear to be a speed compliance problem or accident history I do not consider that a speed limit review for High Street or Guildford Road, Bagshot is a priority at this time.

However, the impacts of traffic in the village will always be a concern locally and I would be interested in your views and that of the Parish Council with regard to the use of this route by through traffic. There are often requests to restrict or limit traffic through the Village although I am sure this view may not be shared by all, particularly local business.

Yours sincerely  
Ian Haller, Local Transportation Manager

Cllr V Chapman  
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Our ref: B311/ILH  
Your ref:

21<sup>st</sup> February 2007

Dear Cllr Chapman

**Petition requesting a 40mph speed limit along Red Road & a 20mph speed limit outside Hammond School, Lightwater**

I refer to the petition, containing 203 signatures, presented to the Local Committee at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

**Red Road, Lightwater**

Improvements have been made in the past 18 months to help mitigate accidents along Red Road and I am able to report that the measures implemented have proved beneficial. Also more recently, necessary carriageway maintenance has been undertaken. However, there still remain some accidents, primarily on the eastbound approach to and at the junction of Macdonald Road. These accidents have been investigated as part of the High Sheriff's Road Safety Initiative and a further vehicle activated sign is proposed for the eastbound approach to the junction. This is being funded from the High Sheriff's Road Safety programme and should be implemented shortly.

With regard to a 40mph speed limit, then an assessment of the current limit can be added to the speed assessment programme. I cannot confirm, at this stage, if a 40mph limit would be appropriate as the assessment and its outcome would need to be in accordance with Surrey's speed management policies. Speed limit assessments are undertaken on a priority basis and in the case of Red Road it would be appropriate to undertake the assessment in conjunction with those scheduled for the lengths of The Maultway. Assessment of The Maultway was due to be undertaken by the end of the 2006/07 financial year but current resource levels within the transportation service and the impact of other works in the District mean it unlikely these will be completed as planned. The assessments will be undertaken during the 2007/08 financial year but at present I am unable to commit to any actual timescale.

**Hammond School**

Surrey County Council and Hammond School are collectively developing a travel plan for the School. Included as part of this work, the School is investigating the possibility of setting up a School Walking Bus. The travel plan development is in its infancy and engineering measures, should any be identified to supplement the plan, have yet to be detailed.

Currently all 20 mph zones or speed limits in Surrey must contain some form of physical measures or traffic calming to influence vehicular speed sufficiently for the limit to be self-enforcing. Therefore, it is not possible to simply alter the speed limit of the road.

A review of the accident and casualty history, between January 2003 and November 2006, for the roads surrounding the School indicate there has been one injury accident. This occurred along The Avenue, east of Stonehill Road and involved a bus and a parked vehicle. Speed data has previously been collected along the length of The Avenue and this has shown that some vehicle speeds in the easterly direction are inappropriate when considering the nature of the road. As a result The Avenue has already been highlighted for the speed poster and speed visor campaigns. With regard to the area fronting the School, no actual speed data has been collected but the School has not raised speed as a particular problem.

Clearly further development of the travel plan will provide the opportunity to discuss any engineering requirements but there does not appear to be an immediate need to investigate or introduce a 20mph speed limit around the School. Where speed has been identified, as being inappropriate a suitable course of action has been identified.

Yours sincerely

Ian Haller  
Local Transportation Manager