

Item 24

D3573 RUGOSA ROAD, WEST END PROPOSED ROAD TABLE

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)

26th July 2007

KEY ISSUE:

To seek authority to advertise a public notice for the introduction of a raised table as part of a drainage improvement scheme being promoted by Surrey Heath Borough Council.

SUMMARY:

During periods of excessive rainfall there are occasions when the existing culvert under Rugosa Road is unable to cope with the volume of water. This has previously resulted in flooding of nearby land and properties. In order to reduce the risk of further flooding, Surrey Heath Borough Council is proposing to create an "overland flood route". This will divert excess water from the watercourse across the carriageway above the culvert before returning it to the watercourse. To help manage the flow of excess water across the carriageway it is proposed that a road table should be introduced as part of the scheme.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Surrey Heath Local Committee

- i. Approve the advertisement of a public notice in accordance with the Highways Act 1980, the effects of which will be to install a road table in Rugosa Road, West End, in the location shown in Annex 1.
- ii. Approve that the Local Highway Manager in consultation with the Chairman of the Local Committee and Local Members consider any representations received in response to the public notice.

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. During times of excessive rainfall, the culvert under the section of Rugosa Road linking into Rubus Close road can be overcome. The large volume of debris carried by this watercourse can block the safety grill and contribute to the problem. However, the water has no escape route without a high risk of flooding to adjacent land and properties.
2. During the storms of August 2006 at least 7 properties were flooded internally as a result of the current ground conditions.
3. Surrey Heath Borough Council is therefore proposing to implement a scheme to allow excess water to flow across the carriageway and return to the watercourse on occasions when the culvert is overcome. This "overland flood route" will significantly reduce the risk of further flooding to properties in Rugosa Road, Rubus Close and Brentmoor Road.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

4. The proposed scheme will involve lowering the ground levels (removal of kerbs, realignment of road, footpath and verge levels) immediately above the culvert to provide an escape channel for excess water. The flood route will divert excess water from the watercourse, via a dedicated 'overland flood route' away from properties, before returning flows back into the open watercourse.
5. The installation of a road table in Rugosa Road is also proposed as part of the scheme. This table will help manage the flow of excess water across the carriageway and prevent it from flowing down Rugosa Road towards Rubus Close.
6. The road table will be constructed in accordance with Surrey County Council's policy.

CONSULTATION

7. In accordance with statutory requirements, a public notice will be advertised prior to the installation of the road table and a minimum period of 21 days will then be allowed for any representations to be submitted in response to the proposal.
8. Surrey Police have been consulted and have no objection to the proposed road table.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9. Surrey Heath Borough Council will meet the costs of designing and installing both the drainage improvement and the road table.
10. The costs associated with advertising the statutory public notice detailing the proposed road table will be met from Surrey County Council's Local Allocation for Surrey Heath.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

11. The scheme seeks to reduce the current risk of flooding by making limited changes to the existing drainage system, thus minimising the environmental impact of the works. Existing materials will be reused as far as possible.

CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

12. No implications for these proposals.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

13. Across the range of transportation issues and problems to be addressed the needs of all highway users require equal consideration. Proposals may benefit a particular group or individuals but it is important to consider and address how one impact may worsen others.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

Number of Annexes: 1