

Item 33

RESPONSE TO A PETITION LAKE ROAD FRIMLEY GREEN

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE IN SURREY HEATH

26th JULY 2007

KEY ISSUE:

To advise members of the receipt of a petition and to receive the officers response.

SUMMARY:

The Local Committee at its meeting on the 8th March 2007 received a petition from residents, containing 216 signatures. It also received a report on Speed management measures and as a result agreed to include Lake Road on its programme for the use of speed visor units (temporary vehicle activated signs).

Surrey Heath Borough Council has previously agreed to fund measures arising out of review of traffic along Lake Road, as part of its Community Fund. This was one of a number of projects to be investigated and the Local Committee received an update report on the progress of these projects in October 2006. Work to review Lake Road was originally due to take place toward the end of 2006 but was delayed due to reduced resources and the impact of other projects at that time. It is expected that the review of Lake Road will now take place during August with consultation during early September 2007.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Surrey Heath Local Committee notes the addition of Lake Road to the temporary vehicle activated signs programme for 2007/08 and the indicative programme for the review of traffic conditions along its length.

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

1. The Local Committee at its meeting on the 8th March 2007 received a petition from residents, containing 216 signatures. The petitioners ***'urge the County Council to urgently place vehicle activated 30mph speed signs in Lake Road, just off Wharf Road as this road has been the scene of more than a dozen accidents involving excessive speed in recent years. Most have resulted in damage to fences and verges on both sides of Lake Road. Before a loss of life or serious injury occurs we urge the Council to act now with the utmost possible dispatch and help head off a tragedy waiting to happen'***.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

2. The Local Committee at its last meeting received a report on Speed management measures and as a result also agreed to include Lake Road on its programme for

the use of speed visor units (temporary vehicle activated signs). The units are currently being repaired as a result of vandalism but are expected to be returned and back in use toward the end of July. At the same time as the repairs the units are being updated to receive solar panels, which will improve their operational reliability.

3. Surrey Heath Borough Council has previously agreed to fund measures arising out of review of traffic along Lake Road, as part of its Community Fund. This was one of a number of projects to be investigated and the Local Committee received an update report on the progress of these projects in October 2006. Work to review Lake Road was originally due to take place toward the end of 2006 but was delayed due to reduced resources and the impact of other projects at that time. It is expected that the review of Lake Road will now take place during August with consultation during early September 2007.
4. There were 11 injury accidents recorded along the length of Lake Road between January 2004 and April 2007 (3 years 4 months) and reducing these where possible is clearly important. Measures already being considered are similar to those implemented along the Mytchett Road recently. These have proved popular among the local community and to date has had a positive accident reduction benefit. 19 injury accidents were recorded along the length of Mytchett Road in the period January 2003 to September 2005 (33 months) prior to implementation of the scheme. A further 4 injury accidents were recorded between October 2005 and May 2006 (8 months) the period during construction of both Phases 1 and 2 of the scheme. Since completion of the measures in June 2006 only 1 injury accident has been recorded up to the end of April 2007 (10 months).
5. The current budget available through the Borough Council's Community Fund would not be sufficient to provide 30mph VAS reminders as used along Mytchett Road. As a result the Local Highways team has in advance, submitted a bid for funding from the Local Public Service Agreement (LPSA) 'pump-priming' budget. Clearly if VAS measures are recommended for Lake Road and the bid is not successful then alternative funding sources will need to be considered.

CONSULTATION

4. Consultation will be undertaken with local residents and members following development of a scheme.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The Borough Council has previously approved a budget for works in Lake Road. Once a scheme has been developed and agreed for implementation a request for the funding will be made. A further bid for additional funds has been made through the LPSA process.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

6. Surrey has embraced the concept of sustainable development, which is the foundation of Surrey's Local Transport Plan and is committed to the vision of making Surrey a better place. Funding from the integrated transport budget will be expended on projects and schemes in line with this vision whilst fulfilling its key commitments.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no direct Crime and Disorder implications.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8. 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.
-

LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER: Ian Haller, Local Highways Manager

TELEPHONE NUMBER: 08456 009 009

BACKGROUND PAPERS: Petition presented to Local Committee on 8th March 2007