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05 May 2010

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Dear Mr Nash

NEW 40MPH SPEED LIMIT AT JUDGES CORNER, COPTHORNE

Thank you for your letter of 6th February concerning the above. I apologise for the delay responding. The new roundabout at Judges Corner has long straight approaches from all directions. In addition the width of these is limited by ditches, trees and other vegetation. This makes it difficult to place warning signs of sufficient size and with adequate visibility approaching the new roundabout.

Consequently the 40mph speed limit was considered necessary in order to help reduce vehicle speeds in advance of the roundabout. The geometric layout closer to the roundabout does have a speed reducing effect on traffic, however if a driver is traveling too quickly approaching these, they could still lose control.

The speed limits around the roundabout are set as close to it as practicable, however in Effingham Road the 40mph speed limit was extended beyond the junction of Dowlands Lane and Effingham Lane as there have been 10 injury accidents on this stretch of road in the last 5 years. In Snow Hill and the southern part of Effingham Road the 40 limit is extended to the West Sussex boundary, which seems sensible.

Although not enforceable at the moment 40mph signs have been left uncovered as they provide a benefit in terms of road safety and drivers often take time to adjust to changes in road layout. Surrey Police support the new speed limit and will not carry out enforcement until the Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) has been made. The Tandridge Local Committee will be meeting on the 4th June 2010 to consider objections to parking and speed limit proposals. Consequently I will report your objections and my response to them in order that they can decide whether to proceed and make the TRO.

Yours sincerely,

David Curl
Local Highway Manager
Surrey Highways (Tandridge)



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