

## OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE TANDRIDGE

### CHURCH HILL/HARESTONE VALLEY ROAD/STATION AVENUE - PROPOSED MINI-ROUNDAABOUT

4 MARCH 2011

#### KEY ISSUE

To seek approval for the provision of mini-roundabout at the junction of Harestone Valley Road, Station Avenue and Church Hill, Caterham.

#### SUMMARY

This report seeks Committee approval for the provision of a mini-roundabout at the junction of Harestone Valley Road, Station Avenue and Church Hill, Caterham. The introduction of a mini-roundabout would improve traffic flow in the area. The scheme would be funded from Caterham Community Partnership and would be the second phase of works for A Better Caterham.

#### OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

**The Local Committee (Tandridge) is asked to agree that:**

- (i) subject to consultation and detailed design, a mini-roundabout at the junction of Harestone Valley Road, Station Avenue and Church Hill, Caterham, as shown in Annex A, be approved for construction.
- (ii) authority be delegated to the Area Team Manager, in consultation with the Chairman, Vice-chairman and relevant local Member, to resolve any representation received as a result of the consultation.

## 1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The junction of Church Hill, Harestone Valley Road and Station Avenue is currently a priority junction with the right turn movement from Church Hill into Harestone Valley Road prohibited. The provision of a mini-roundabout at this junction is a local aspiration and has the support of local Councillors and interested groups. Funds are available from Caterham Community Partnership's 'Shabby to Smart' programme to facilitate the construction of a mini roundabout as the second phase of works for A Better Caterham.
- 1.2 At the meeting held on 14 December 2010, the Local Committee approved revocation of the banned right turn, subject to the required legal procedure and statutory consultation.

## 2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The proposed mini-roundabout at the junction of Church Hill, Harestone Valley Road and Station Avenue is shown in **Annex A**. It will enable the existing right turn ban to be revoked, as previously agreed by Committee. This will ease the traffic congestion in Station Road that results from the present arrangements whereby traffic wishing to turn right from Church Hill into Harestone Valley Road has to travel the length of Station Avenue and then return back along the same road in order to turn left into Harestone Valley Road. The resulting reduction in traffic performing U-turn movements on the roundabout known as The Square will help to alleviate the blocking of the roundabout and its feeder roads when the pedestrian lights prevent vehicle movement. Lower pollution levels, greater ease in crossing the road around The Square and improved pedestrian safety are expected as a result.
- 2.2 The provision of a roundabout will also improve traffic flow out of Harestone Valley Road for vehicles turning right into Station Avenue, particularly at peak school times.
- 2.3 The scheme will include uncontrolled pedestrian crossing points in Harestone Valley Road and Stafford Road with dropped kerbs and tactile paving. It will also address current issues with the surfacing at Harestone Valley Road for which no funding is currently allocated.

## 3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 There are no other options that could be considered at this junction.

## 4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 A combined Stage 1 & 2 Road Safety Audit has been carried out by independent, experienced road safety engineers. To address the comments arising from the safety audit, the design is being revised to accommodate the mini-roundabout within the existing geometry of the junction with no changes to the existing kerblines. With this revision, sightlines for pedestrians crossing Harestone Valley Road can be achieved.

At a meeting attended by the Police and the safety auditors to discuss the proposed revisions, the Police indicated their support of the mini-roundabout.

- 4.2 Should the roundabout receive approval, the revised proposal will be the subject of detailed design and a further Stage 2 road safety audit. Full consultation also will be carried out in accordance with Surrey County Council's Roads and Transport Consultation Good Practice Guide, as published on Surrey County Council's website.

## **5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 Funds are available from Caterham Community Partnership via a grant from SEEDA and other local contributions. Surrey County Council has agreed to contribute £5,000 towards the development of the scheme.
- 5.2 The proposed mini-roundabout fits within the scope for which the above monies have been taken.

## **6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 The roundabout scheme will provide pedestrian crossing points in Harestone Valley Road and Stafford Road that will be fully compliant with Disability Discrimination Act guidance.

## **7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The roundabout will remove the need for the current right turn ban from Church Hill into Harestone Valley Road and any enforcement action that may currently be undertaken.

## **8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 8.1 The scheme and its funding stream allow a number of local issues to be resolved without major recourse to the Surrey County Council budget.

## **9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 The mini-roundabout forms part of the Caterham Community Partnerships Shabby to Smart programme of works and has received financial support from SEEDA.
- 9.2 The provision of a mini-roundabout has been identified as providing solutions to local traffic issues, reducing U-turn movements and congestion in The Square and assisting pedestrian movement.
- 9.3 The roundabout works will address current issues with the surfacing at Harestone Valley Road, which are not currently funded.

**10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

- 10.1 Further design works will be undertaken together with a Safety Audit of the revised design.
- 10.2 The scheme will be costed and, subject to sufficient funding being available, will be implemented.

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**BACKGROUND PAPERS:** Report to Tandridge Local Committee, 14 December 2010