

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

MEMBER'S QUESTION AND RESPONSE

12 MARCH 2010

From Mr David Munro (Farnham South)

At a seminar on highway matters in Farnham organised jointly by Surrey County Council and Waverley Borough Council on 26 January 2010, the issue of HGVs blighting the centre of Farnham was raised. At the time, Surrey County Counci officers present said that they would investigate the matter urgently.

Subsequently, at the full Council meeting on 9 February, the three county councillors representing Farnham asked the Cabinet Member for Transport to confirm that 'the Highways Service are actively investigating the issue'. In his reply, Mr Ian Lake said, 'I have asked the Highways and Transport Services to make HGV issues a priority and to come forward with practical plans to address the problems at the earliest opportunity . . . '.

I have heard nothing further. Could the Local Highways Manager please give the Committee an update on what is happening ?

Response

Action is being taken as follows:

• New signs advising HGVs to use the A331 Blackwater Valley Route to reach the M3 and Odiham will be installed at the Shepherd and Flock roundabout. These will be placed to discourage use of both the Guildford Road (A325) into the town centre, and the Hale Road (A325) leading to Upper Hale. These signs are on order, and are being funded centrally from the Local Transport Plan capital budget for freight.

- A Freight Quality Partnership (FQP) for Farnham will be established, with the objective of minimising HGV movements in the town centre, and reducing the impact of HGVs. An officer meeting (Waverley Borough and Surrey County Councils) has been arranged for 1 April to instigate the FQP by agreeing who should be involved: typically retail and commerce groups, resident association representatives, the Town Council, the Freight Transport Association and the Road Haulage Association.
- At Item 16 on this agenda the Committee will consider an application for funding revisions to loading restrictions in the town centre under the County Council's Climate Change Fund.