



# **Westfield Estate Traffic Calming Proposals and Survey Results**

**19 March 2003**

## **KEY ISSUE:**

To report on the proposals for the Westfield Estate traffic calming scheme and to summarise the results of the survey held during February 2003.

## **SUMMARY:**

The agreed Local Transport Programme for Woking 2003/04 to 2005/06 includes proposals for a traffic calming scheme in Westfield Estate. The scheme consists of red surfacing at the entrance to Balfour Avenue, two speed tables (the Balfour Avenue junction with Westfield Common and the junction with Quartermaine Avenue and Campbell Avenue), and six strategically placed speed cushions in order to reduce vehicles speeds on all roads.

A survey was carried out to ascertain residents' views on the proposed scheme. Nine out of ten residents who replied to the consultation letter are in favour of the scheme.

**CONSULTATIONS:**

Local Committee asked officers to consult locally on this proposal and thus the residents of Westfield Estate were consulted on 17 February 2003 by a letter, questionnaire and accompanying A4 plan (11395-1) showing the traffic calming proposals [ANNEX A]. The location plan Annex B shows the area within which residents were consulted. The residents were asked for their views on the proposed scheme.

The local Borough and County Councillors, the Police and the Emergency Services were also consulted on the proposed scheme.

The responses from Westfield Estate demonstrate an overall response rate of thirty six percent. Ninety two percent of respondents replied in favour of the scheme, stressing the urgent need for implementation, the dangers of current speeding and reckless driving through the Estate and concerns for pedestrian safety; particularly for the elderly and children. Eight respondents were not in favour of the scheme.

**OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**The Committee is asked to agree:**

**that the scheme be approved for implementation.**

## **INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND**

1. Woking Borough Council, as former Highways Agents for Surrey County Council, carried out a number of traffic surveys in the Westfield estate following concerns expressed by the local residents regarding speeding vehicles and accidents. The surveys showed that some vehicles were travelling along Balfour Avenue well in excess of the speed limit. Therefore, at the Local Committee Meeting on 11 September 2002 it was agreed that the Local Transportation Service should implement a traffic calming scheme, subject to adequate funding and a full consultation exercise being carried out with residents on the proposed package of traffic calming measures.
2. The scheme proposed by the Local Transportation Service consists of red surfacing at the entrance to Balfour Avenue, speed tables along Balfour Avenue at the junction with Westfield Common and at the junction with Quartermaine Avenue and Campbell Avenue, and six strategically placed speed cushions in order to reduce vehicles speeds on all roads. [ANNEX A, plan 11395-1].
3. It is intended that the traffic calming scheme will achieve several transportation objectives:
  - reduce vehicle speeds along a residential road,
  - provide a safer environment for all road users,
  - retain existing on-street parking provision,
  - cater for the needs of the emergency services,
  - provide a cost effective solution, and
  - address residents' concerns about existing traffic speeds.

## **SURVEY PERIOD 2003**

4. Following consultation with the local Councillors in January 2003 on the proposed traffic calming scheme, the residents of Westfield Estate were consulted on 17 February 2003 by a letter, questionnaire and accompanying A4 plan (11495-1) showing the traffic calming proposals. [ANNEX A].
5. The questionnaire invited the residents to comment on the proposed scheme and also gave the opportunity for concerns, opinions and suggestions on the traffic calming measures to be voiced.
6. Two hundred and eighty one questionnaires were sent out. The response rate for Westfield Estate was thirty six percent (at date of report). The results show that the level of responses is similar throughout the estate, thus demonstrating that the returned questionnaires can be taken as a reliable representation of residents' views.
7. The Police and the Emergency Services were consulted on the proposals outlined in Annex A (19 and 20 February 2003 respectively).
8. No adverse comments about the scheme were received from the local Borough

and County Councillors, the Emergency Services or the Police.

### **ANALYSIS and COMMENTARY**

9. Full details of the responses received from residents, with their comments, are given in Annex C.
10. Collectively, ninety two percent of the respondents were in favour of the proposed scheme for Westfield Estate.
11. Eighty percent of respondents stressed their concerns over current excessive speeding and reckless driving through the estate and also voiced their fears over child and pedestrian safety (children and the elderly account for a high proportion of the resident population on the estate). A great number of children play in the street, thus heightening concerns for child safety.
12. A number of residents made suggestions for alterations to the proposed traffic calming scheme. Requests focused on; replacing the speed cushions with humps, adding extra speed cushions to the scheme, for parking restrictions, and for traffic calming on the Newlands Avenue junctions with Campbell Avenue, Balfour Avenue and Quartermaine Avenue, on the Westfield Road and at the junction with Balfour Avenue, along Westfield Common and Westfield Way, to increase the traffic calming near the children's play area and, as an aside, also for the Westfield Avenue junction with Westfield Road.
13. Requests for the traffic calming scheme to be extended to areas such as Westfield Common and Westfield Way came from the residents living in those specific areas.
14. There were eight respondents who replied that they were not in favour of the traffic calming proposals. All seven reside in areas of the estate that are not likely to be directly affected by the current speeding and safety issues and similarly they will not be unduly affected by the proposals due to the suggested location of the traffic calming measures to be implemented.
15. In response to the suggestions voiced by the residents; Surrey County Council policy for traffic calming is to install cushions and tables in preference to road humps to allow Emergency Services ease of access. Parking within Westfield Estate is a separate issue, and is therefore not addressed in this report. It is doubtful that the Local Transportation Service would recommend installing traffic calming measures along Westfield Road because it is a B-Road. Overall, the proposed scheme strikes a balance between addressing the need to reduce speeds within the estate and minimising the inconvenience to residents.

### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

16. The estimated cost of the scheme is £25,000 and is currently programmed for construction in 2003/04.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS**

17. The proposals are intended to improve safety for all road users within the Westfield Estate by reducing vehicle speeds and the opportunity for speeding.

**CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS**

18. Ninety two percent of residents who replied to the questionnaire were in favour of the proposals. The consultation response rate of thirty two percent can be taken as an adequate representation of the Westfield Estate community. This is strengthened by the spread of respondent addresses within the Estate, recorded in Annex C.

19. Subject to agreement of the Westfield Estate traffic calming proposals at Local Committee, it is proposed that scheme be implemented in the next financial year, 2003/04.

**REPORT BY: Stephen Child, Local Transportation Manager, Woking**

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<b>LEAD/CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	<b>John Masson</b>
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER:</b>	<b>01483 518300</b>
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	<b>Completed questionnaires received from residents</b>

Version No. Five    Date: 04.03.03    Time: 08.30    Initials: FMH    No of annexes: Three

**Covering Letter, Questionnaire and Plan 11395-1**  
Sent out to the residents of Westfield Estate

Tel: 01483 518300  
Fax: 01483 518328  
Email: WokingLTS@surreycc.gov.uk



Our ref: LTS/JM/6.76/11

17 February 2003

Dear Resident,

**PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING, WESTFIELD ESTATE, WOKING**

I am writing to you to seek your views on a proposal to introduce traffic calming into the Westfield Estate.

Following concerns expressed by residents about speeding vehicles and accidents, a number of traffic surveys were carried out. These showed that some vehicles were travelling along Balfour Avenue well in excess of the speed limit. Therefore, the Local Committee, comprising members of both Surrey County and Woking Borough Councils, resolved at their meeting on 11 September 2002 to consult the residents on a package of traffic calming measures.

The proposals are shown on Drawing No. 11395-1 attached. The proposed scheme, as it stands, consists of red surfacing at the entrance to Balfour Avenue, two speed tables (the Balfour Avenue junction with Westfield Common and the junction with Quartermaine Avenue and Campbell Avenue), and six strategically placed speed cushions in order to reduce vehicles speeds on all roads.

I would be grateful if you could take a few moments to complete the attached questionnaire and return it in the envelope provided. If most residents are in favour of the scheme, we will seek to implement the proposals in the 2003/4 financial year.

If you require any further information, please contact me.

Yours faithfully,

John Masson  
Senior Engineer  
Integrated Transportation Team



PROPOSED TRAFFIC CALMING, WESTFIELD ESTATE – QUESTIONNAIRE

Name.....

Address.....  
.....  
.....

Please tick ONE of the boxes below

I am in favour of the proposals

Please tell us why you are in favour of the proposals

.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

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I am not in favour of the proposals

Please tell us why you are not in favour of the proposals

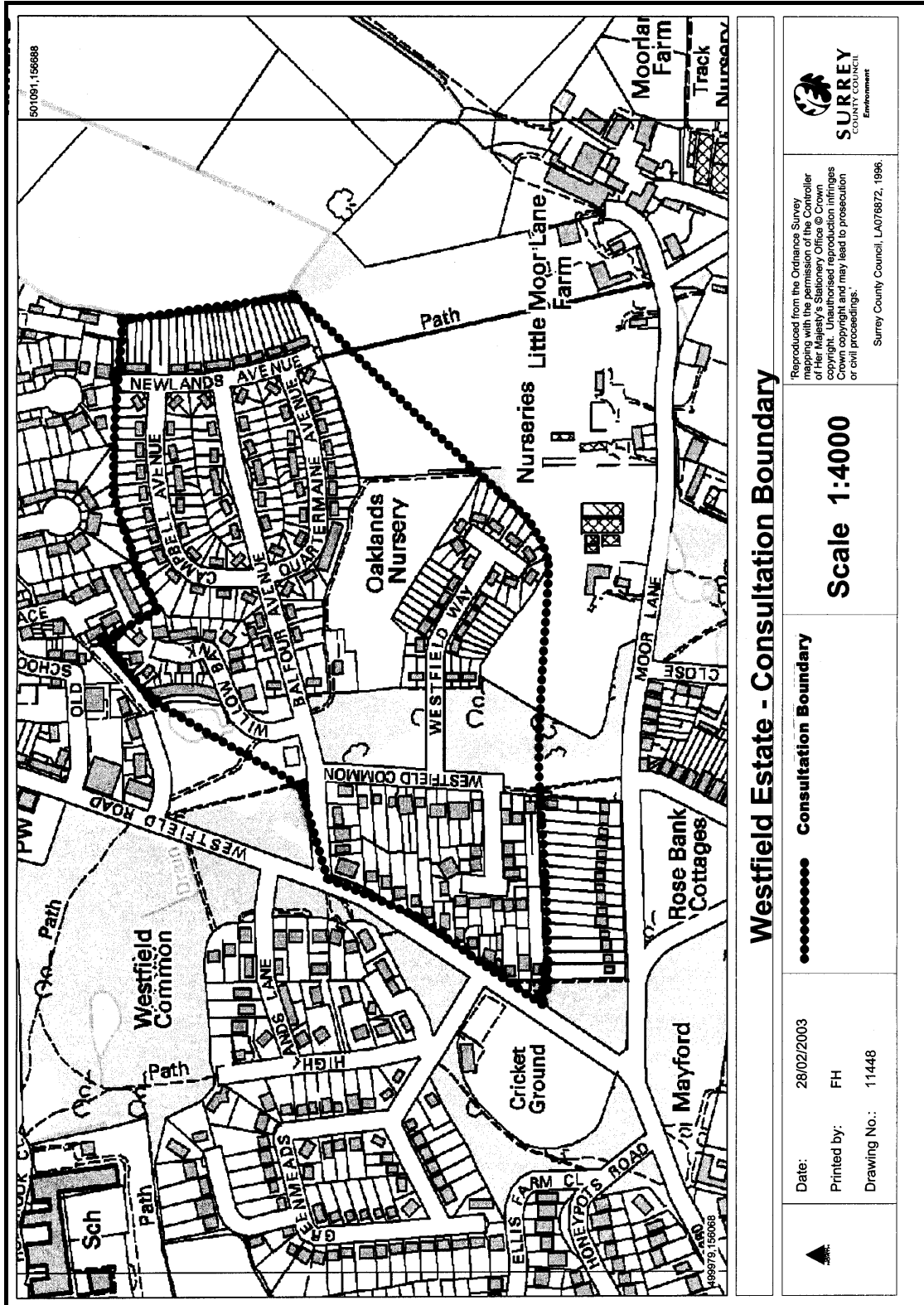
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Signed..... Date.....

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please return it by Friday 28 February in the envelope provided.







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Surrey County Council, LA076872, 1996.

**Westfield Estate - Consultation Boundary**

**Scale 1:4000**

●●●●●●●● Consultation Boundary

Date: 28/02/2003  
Printed by: FH  
Drawing No.: 11448



## ANNEX C

Road Name	In Favour	Comments	Suggestions
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Balfour Ave.	N	Proposals will be seen as a challenge	Keep red road surface at Balfour junction with Westfield Rd
Balfour Ave.	Y		
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y		
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	Replace cushions with humps
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	Replace cushions with humps [need to slow motorbikes too]
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	More measures at Westfield Rd junction with Balfour Ave.
Balfour Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions concerns for child safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	

Road Name	In Favour	Comments	Suggestions
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	More speed cushions needed
Campbell Ave.	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	For two speed cushions in each location
Campbell Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Campbell Ave.	Y		Parking restrictions needed & calming on Campbell Ave. & Balfour Ave. junctions with Newlands Ave.
Newlands Ave.	Y		
Newlands Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Newlands Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Newlands Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Newlands Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Newlands Ave.	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Newlands Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	Narrowing the three junction mouths on Newlands Ave.
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Fed up with noise, speeds, etc.	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Quartermaine Ave.	Y		Asks if road humps would be better
Quartermaine Ave.	Y	Mentions current speeds	

Road Name	In Favour	Comments	Suggestions
The Orchard	Y	Mentions current speeds	
The Orchard	Y	Mentions current speeds	Measures for Westfield Ave., esp. at the end of the road
The Orchard	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
The Orchard	N	Waste of money	
The Orchard	Y	Support ideas	
The Orchard	N	Reduce the amount of traffic calming	Speed table on Westfield Road junction with Balfour Avenue
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	Table at junction of Westfield Com. & Westfield Way
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	Traffic calming along Westfield Common
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	Requests road humps along Westfield
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	Speed humps in Westfield Way & Common
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	Concerns over excess speeding on Westfield Road [from Cricketers pub to Mayford mini-roundabout]
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	Not in favour of a speed table at Westfield Common junction
Westfield Common	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Westfield Road	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Westfield Road	Y	Mentions current speeds	Measures for Westfield Road
Westfield Road	Y		
Westfield Road	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	Traffic calming in proximity to the childrens play area
Westfield Way	Y		Requests more speed cushions & measures for Westfield Way & Westfield Common
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions current speeds	Requests measures for Westfield Way
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions current speeds	Requests measures for Westfield Way
Westfield Way	Y		
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	

Road Name	In Favour	Comments	Suggestions
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Westfield Way	Y		Request road humps also along all roads
Westfield Way	Y	Mentions current speeds & Joyriding	Call for measures on Westfield Comm. & Way
Willow Bank	N	No experience of excessive speeds, feels that the scheme would be an eyesore	
Willow Bank	N	Mentions current speeds	Does not want road humps
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Willow Bank	Y		
Willow Bank	Y	Concerns over road safety	
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Willow Bank	N	No experience of excessive speeds, feels that the scheme would be an inconvenience	
Willow Bank	N	Traffic calming will not work - police needed	
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions current speeds	
Willow Bank	Y	Mentions speeds & road safety	
Willow Bank	N	Proposals will be seen as a challenge	
		Total in favour	93
		Total not in favour	8
		<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>
<b>Percentages</b>			
		Response rate	36
		In favour	92