

Brookwood Hospital Bus Gate

Short Briefing Sheet Following Local Committee for Woking 14 October 2004

History:

Woking Borough Council granted planning consent for the redevelopment of Brookwood Hospital following a Public Inquiry (1990), which incorporated, as a condition, the provision of the Bus Gate. The rising bollards became operational April/May 1996. They were damaged beyond serviceable repair in May/June 2003. A replacement installation became operational in September 2004 following procurement difficulties.

Borough Councillor Jim Armitage submitted a motion to Woking Council to open the Bus Gate to all traffic in December 1994. After receiving two reports (19.1.95 & 16.3.95) Woking Borough Council emphatically rejected the motion.

Surrey County Council's Local Committee for Woking received Public and Member questions in October 2003 related to the Bus Gate, they agreed to repair and make the Bus Gate operational. In January 2004 the Local Committee received a petition objecting to the repair and reinstatement of the Bus Gate. Committee agreed to consult in the Knaphill area as the community held two strongly opposing views about the Bus Gate.

Consultation dated 1 October 2004:

Are you in favour of the rising bollards in the spur road (by the Vyne) between Redding Way and Broadway, Knaphill, being permanently opened to all traffic? Yes or No; please give a reason. Distributed 3476.

Returned by 12 October 2004, 1038 – 30% Yes 682 – 66% No 356 – 33%

Slight misreading of the question by some, i.e. "Are you in favour of the rising bollards in the spur road" No to Yes 24 and Yes to No 15 negligible impact on return. Blank 4 no indication. Knaphill Residents Association in favour.

Between 14 and 25 October a further 58 returns Yes 45 No 13.

Flavour of reasons given; comments vary depending on location of respondent:

YES: short cut, convenient, time saving; opinions differ about traffic flows, and removal of traffic from other congested roads.

NO: safety of those using the Vyne, rat running, speeding, more traffic on Redding Way, and not designed at Broadway for all vehicles.

Traffic Counts: 24 hour flows

July - with Bus Gate open, October - when closed and operational.

Sussex Road:	[Consultation Replies	Yes 8	No 4]
July	Towards Broadway 489	Away from Broadway	889
October	Towards Broadway 399	Away from Broadway	718
Queens Road:	[Consultation Replies	Yes 23	No 5]
July	Towards Broadway 916	Away from Broadway	435
October	Towards Broadway 583	Away from Broadway	954
Spur Road:			
July	Towards Broadway 978	Away from Broadway	979
October	Towards Broadway 155	Away from Broadway	171

Surrey County Council Local Committee for Woking 14 October 2004

A presentation to the Committee showed the Bus Gate in operation, buses turning into the Spur Road and restricted sight lines at Broadway. After a debate the Committee resolved that the Bus Gate remain operationally buses only.

Bus Gate - Planning Condition

The Bus Gate is a conditional requirement of the planning consent approval for the redevelopment of the Brookwood Hospital site. To remove such would require the formal submission of a requisite application together with supporting transportation assessment. Removal of the Bus Gate would be against the aims and objectives of the Local Transport Plan.