



**PROPOSED PEDESTRIAN REFUGE,
OLD WOKING ROAD**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE FOR WOKING
20 OCTOBER 2005**

KEY ISSUE:

To consider a proposal to provide a pedestrian refuge in Old Woking Road.

SUMMARY:

Construction of a pedestrian refuge is proposed at the junction of Old Woking Road and Lincoln Drive, to assist pedestrians to cross the road and improve access to the local school and shops.

CONSULTATIONS:

The following have been consulted:

The Divisional Member

The Ward Councillor

Local Residents

The Police

North Surrey Association of Disabled People

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to agree:

that the pedestrian refuge shown on Drawing No. 12018 be approved for construction.

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

1. The Old Woking Road forms part of the busy B382 route linking Old Woking and West Byfleet. (See Location Plan attached at Annex A). Between East Hill and Sheerwater Road, the road is predominantly residential in character and subject to a speed limit of 40mph. There is a pedestrian refuge at the junction of Old Woking Road and East Hill, and one at the junction of Old Woking Road and Pyrford Common Road. However, between Pyrford Common Road and Sheerwater Road, a distance of about one mile, there are no pedestrian crossing facilities at all.
2. A survey of pedestrians crossing this length of road was carried out in 2003. This revealed that crossing movements took place along the whole length of the road and were not concentrated at any one point. It would therefore be difficult to justify the provision of a formal pedestrian crossing.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

3. Although a formal crossing could not be justified, the Divisional Member and Ward Councillor for the area asked officers if it would be possible to provide a further pedestrian refuge somewhere along this length of road to assist pedestrians. A site inspection was therefore carried out in April 2005, and two possible sites for a pedestrian refuge were identified, one at the junction of Old Woking Road and Lincoln Drive, and one at a former bus stop some 120 metres south-west of this junction. At both of these locations there is sufficient road width to construct a refuge. (Elsewhere it would be necessary to widen the road to accommodate a refuge. The cost of doing this, and the need to acquire private land, would preclude the possibility of such a scheme). Plans showing a possible pedestrian refuge for each of these locations are shown at Annex B (Option 1) and Annex C (Option 2) respectively.
4. As the two possible sites are within 120 metres of each other, it would not be worthwhile to proceed with both options. Therefore it is proposed that the refuge at the junction of Old Woking Road and Lincoln Drive (Option 2) should be constructed, for the following reasons:
 - This option enables pedestrians to access Lincoln Drive more directly, and this leads to the local shops at Marshals Parade and also, via a public right of way, to Pyrford Primary School
 - If Option 1 were to be progressed, it would be necessary to reconstruct the entire concrete lay-by where buses used to stop, thus increasing the cost of the scheme to an unacceptable level. (This additional work is necessary to avoid the possibility of drivers braking while their vehicle wheels are on two different types of road surface. This could lead to loss of control and conflict with pedestrians, as pointed out in the Safety Auditors' report).
 - Option 1 would bring traffic nearer to the access serving Nos. 161

and 163 Old Woking Road, making it more difficult for these residents to drive out of their property.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The cost of the proposal is estimated to be £10,000. Funding for the scheme has yet to be identified.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

6. The pedestrian refuge will make it easier and safer for pedestrians to cross Old Woking Road, encouraging more journeys to be made on foot, in line with LTP targets.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no crime and disorder implications.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

8. There are no equalities implications.

CONCLUSIONS AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9. Old Woking Road is a busy road, with residential property on both sides, and with very little provision for crossing pedestrians. The proposed refuge will provide a safe and convenient crossing point for pedestrians, enabling easier access to the local school and shops.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: None

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