



OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE WOKING

PAXTON GARDENS – REDUCE “RAT RUNNING”

20 FEBRUARY 2008

KEY ISSUE

Assess the amount of vehicle “rat running” that occurs in the service road between Woodham Lane and Sheerwater Road, West Byfleet

SUMMARY

Residents perceive that a significant number of drivers avoid the congestion during peak traffic periods at the junction of Sheerwater Road and Woodham Lane by taking an alternative route through the service road for Priory Close, Broadwater Close and Paxton Gardens.

A survey of vehicle movements has been undertaken during peak periods, which found that the greater majority of drivers entering the area did so for a legitimate reason – residents, their visitors and deliveries.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Local Committee Woking is asked to agree that:

- (i) No further action is taken on this issue.

1 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1 For a number of years the issue of “rat running” through the service road between Woodham Lane and Sheerwater Road has been raised with the Local Highway team as a request for preventative measures. Resident perception is that drivers avoid the congestion occurring during peak times at the junction of Woodham Lane and Sheerwater Road by taking an alternative route along the service road. Whilst this is understandable the residents do not observe the start and finish of each journey in their area.
- 1.2 A survey of vehicle movements was conducted on 1 November 2007 to establish the actual level of “rat running”.

2 ANALYSIS

- 2.1 The survey revealed that the majority of drivers recorded as travelling in the area were not “rat running”.

2.2

WOODHAM LANE TO SHEERWATER ROAD

| | Total Vehicles | Visitors/Residents | “Rat Running” |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 0700 – 1000 | 45 | 31 | 14 |
| 1600 - 1900 | 61 | 58 | 3 |

SHEERWATER ROAD TO WOODHAM LANE

| | Total Vehicles | Visitors/Residents | “Rat Running” |
|-------------|----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 0700 – 1000 | 35 | 31 | 4 |
| 1600 - 1900 | 60 | 54 | 6 |

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 The survey has not shown that a significant amount of rat running occurs and no further action is appropriate.

4 CONSULTATIONS

- 4.1 The Divisional and Ward Members and residents have been informed of the survey outcome, attached as **Annex A**.

5 FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no financial and value for money implications.

6 EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There are no equalities and diversity implications.

7 CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no crime and disorder implications.

8 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 The survey of driver behaviour has clearly shown that the problem perceived by residents does not exist and it is not necessary to take any further action.

9 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The survey of driver behaviour has clearly shown that the problem perceived by residents does not exist and it is not necessary to take any further action

10 WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

10.1 With Committee approval no further action will be taken.

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| BACKGROUND PAPERS: | Nil |

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