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Our ref; Sdrive3741 / D3605 / service rd cons / kdp 17 March 2008

Dear Sir / Madam

#### LOWER GUILDFORD ROAD, KNAPHILL – POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF THE SERVICE ROAD AT ONE END

You may recall that I wrote to you on 9 January 2008 regarding our proposal to construct a pedestrian crossing on Lower Guildford Road. This has generally been supported by the residents, although some concern has been raised about the impact that this might have on the level of use of the service road by vehicles by-passing the crossing or just making their way to the Lansbury Estate.

At their meeting on 20 February 2008, the Members of the Local Committee (Woking) approved the proposal for a pedestrian crossing but asked Officers to consult with residents about options for treating the service road and report back to them at the Committee's next meeting on 23 June 2008, hence this letter.

Shortly before the Local Committee meeting, I met with several residents and Councillor Diana Smith to discuss the use of the service road and what might be done. As you know, the road is made of concrete and it can be difficult and extremely costly to build onto such a surface, so even if there was a strong desire amongst residents for traffic calming, we would be very reluctant to put any in. A better option might be to close the service road off at one end, although the problem then is, which end ?

Our preference would be to close the road off at the Lansbury Estate end, as shown on the enclosed plan – please remember that this is a preference and it is not a “done deal” that this is what will happen. There are two principal reasons for preferring this end of the road, one of which is that it should be easier to provide a turning head at this end of the road in the wide verge that separates the service road from the main road. Clearly, if we are closing the road off, it is important that a turning head is provided so that vehicles do not have to reverse the whole length of the road or turn around in private driveways.

The other reason is due to the visibility when turning out of the service road by the Lansbury Estate. To the left, sightlines are partly obscured by the Lansbury Estate's brick-built name plinth. To the right, a drivers' view of traffic accessing the Lansbury Estate can be limited, particularly traffic that has come down the hill from Knaphill village and which turns left into

the estate. Whilst there are some issues at the other end of the service road, with regard to vehicles on Northwood Avenue, on balance, it is considered that these are not so problematic as the situation at the Lansbury Estate.

We would be most grateful to receive your views on this proposal and would be obliged if you could fill in the enclosed questionnaire to allow us to develop a solution to stop vehicles using the service road as a cut-through and at inappropriate speeds.

You may also recall that in my original letter, I mentioned that we were in discussions with Surrey Police about the possibility of reducing the speed limit on Lower Guildford Road to 30mph from the current 40mph limit. I am pleased to be able to inform you that we have reached agreement with Surrey Police about this and the Local Committee (Woking) also approved lowering the speed limit. Unfortunately, because of the funding that is required, this will not happen straight away but will be undertaken as part of the scheme to install the crossing.

Thank you for your time and I look forward to receiving your comments about what should be done in the service road.

Yours sincerely,

Kevin Patching  
Engineer – West Area Highways

# LOWER GUILDFORD ROAD, KNAPHILL

## POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF THE SERVICE ROAD AT ONE END

Name .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Q1 Would you like to see action taken to deter / stop traffic from using the Lower Guildford Road service road as a cut-through and at inappropriate speeds ?

Yes

No

If Yes, please go to Q2

Q2 Would you prefer the road to be closed at one end ?

Yes  if Yes, please go to Q3

No  if No, please go to Q4

Q3 At which end would you like the road to be closed?

Lansbury Estate end

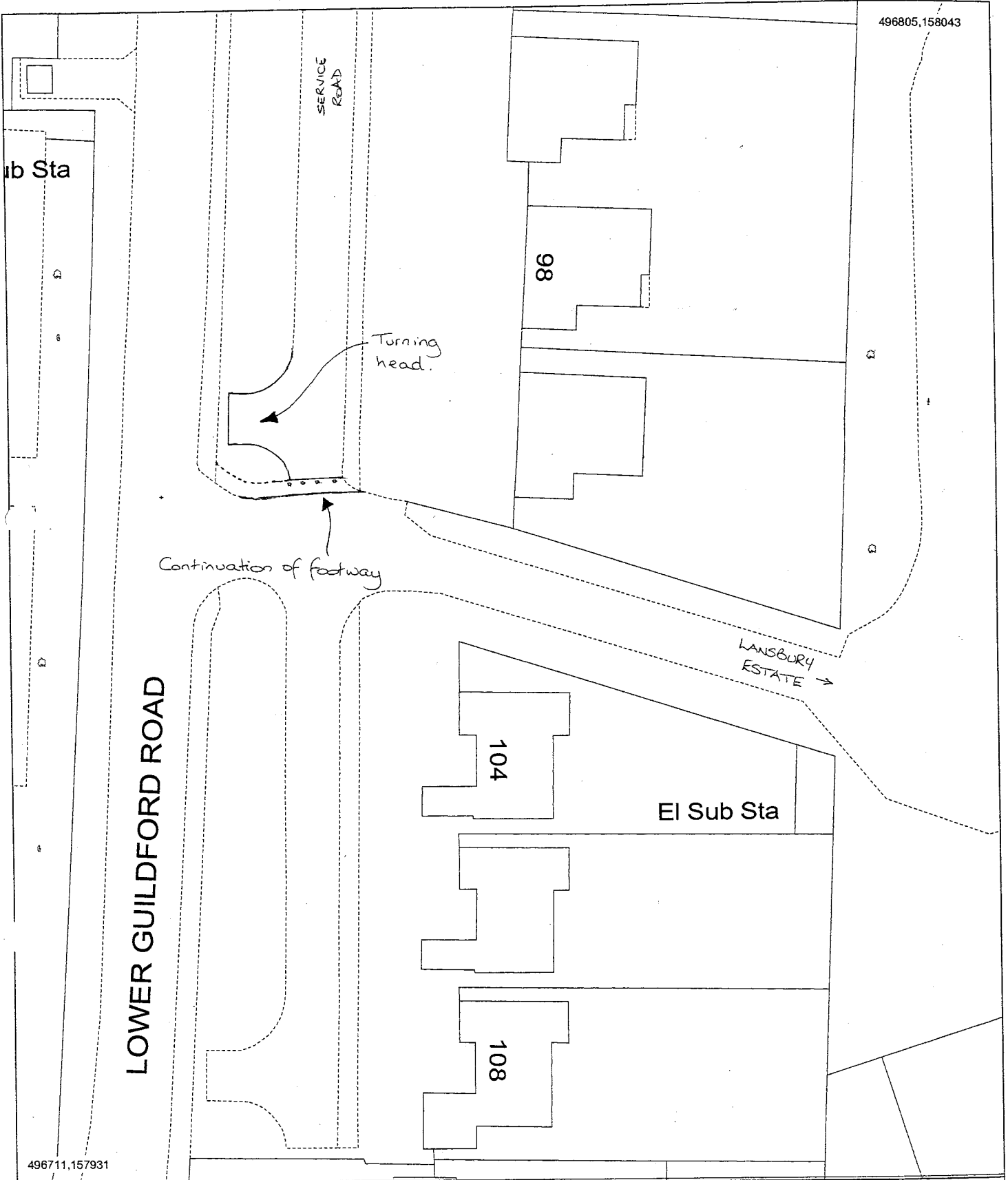
Northwood Avenue end

Q4 If the road was traffic calmed, what type would you prefer to see ?

Road humps

Road narrowings

**Thank you for taking the time to answer these questions – if you have any other comments to make, please use the reverse of this sheet.**



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## Lower Guildford Road - proposal to close off one end of the service road



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