



**OFFICER REPORT TO LOCAL COMMITTEE  
WOKING**

**RESPONSE TO PETITION REGARDING ROAD SAFETY  
IN ALBERT DRIVE, SHEERWATER**

**26 MARCH 2012**

**KEY ISSUE**

To advise the Committee of the response to a petition received regarding concerns about road safety and lack of parking provision along Albert Drive, Sheerwater.

**SUMMARY**

A petition containing 79 signatures, urging Surrey County Council to address road safety concerns in Albert Drive, was presented to the Local Committee on 12 October 2011.

**Wording of Petition**

“We have serious concerns about the type of driving that we are seeing on Albert Drive. I have no doubt that it is only a matter of time that someone will get killed along this stretch of road. We are now appealing to you to ensure that affirmative action is taken as soon as possible in order to put some kind of measure in place to ensure that people drive responsibly along this stretch of road.

Parking is also an issue around this part of Albert Drive. In a nutshell we have none. Residents have to park in the lay by which is nowhere near wide enough. My neighbours and I have been the victim of having damage done to our vehicles on more than one occasion. There are houses along Albert Drive that have got driveways and off street parking. We are situated on a green and have no driveways or parking. This issue also needs to be looked into as soon as possible.”

**Concerns**

There are concerns about the speed of traffic, driver-behaviour and the lack of parking provision along Albert Drive, Sheerwater.

**Officer response:**

**Background**

The D3368 Albert Drive is the only road that provides access into Sheerwater. At its western end, access to and from C144 Monument Road is via Arnold Road and Eve Road but it is Albert Drive that is the principal road through Sheerwater and all other roads in the estate have to be accessed from it. It is an important east – west corridor and is heavily used by buses.

The existing traffic calming measures consist of chicanes and were introduced in 1991 to address a collision history that was largely associated with excessive speed. These have since been modified as the length of buses using the road has increased and these were experiencing difficulty in negotiating the original chicanes.

At the western end of Sheerwater there are industrial and commercial businesses. A weight limit is in force on Albert Drive between A245 Sheerwater Road and a point just to the west of Devonshire Avenue, which is intended to restrict access so that HGVs can only access these areas from Monument Road. The original design of the chicanes helped to self-regulate this weight limit.

**Parking**

The provision of additional parking bays in Albert Drive has been raised before. It formed the basis of reports to this committee on 19 January 2005 and 28 February 2007 and a petition 15 June 2006. The Committee adopted a verge parking policy at its meeting on 13 November 2002. This is not a County-wide policy and the provision of parking is not a duty of the Highway Authority. However, neither the locally adopted policy nor the information given on the Surrey County Council website about verge parking rule out the possibility of providing parking places on the highway. Although this is something that is rarely done, the situation in Albert Drive means that the provision of additional parking now needs to be considered and should be included in any feasibility study that is undertaken.

**Safety**

During the last 3-year period, 21 personal injury collisions have occurred along Albert Drive, resulting in 3 serious and 28 slight personal injuries. These figures do not include any collisions at the Sheerwater Road junction or any collisions in Eve Road or Arnold Road.

There are six vehicle activated signs along the road. In addition, it is one of Surrey Police's two Casualty Reduction Routes for Woking during the next year, which means that it will receive a higher level of enforcement activity than other roads in the borough.

The collision history suggests that the existing traffic calming measures are no longer sufficient and need to be reassessed.

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT**

Officers have recommended to the Local Committee that £20,000 is allocated to undertake a feasibility study of the traffic management options that could be employed along Albert Drive and if the provision of more parking is possible. If this is approved, a project brief will be passed to our design team to consider the traffic calming measures that could be employed along the road and whether additional parking can be provided. Consultations with residents and other stakeholders will be undertaken before any scheme is finalised and brought back to Committee for funding for construction.

This feasibility and consultation exercise will need to consider the possible impact of the proposed Sheerwater Corridor Improvement and any changes to the existing mini-roundabout that might arise from work at The Bishop David Brown School.

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<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	None