Supplementary Agenda

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth Decisions



Date and Time	<u>Place</u>	Contact	Web:
Tuesday, 17 December 2024 12.00 pm	Woodhatch Place, 11 Cockshot Hill, Reigate	Joss Butler Joss.butler@surreycc.gov.uk	Council and democracy Surreycc.gov.uk

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Cabinet Members:

Matt Furniss

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

2a MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

(Pages 5 - 6)

One Member Question was submitted by Cllr Catherine Baart. The question and response are included within this supplementary agenda.

3 PETITION: TRAFFIC LIGHTS OUTSIDE WEST BYFLEET INFANT AND JUNIOR SCHOOLS ON BUSY CAMPHILL ROAD

(Pages 7 - 8)

One petition has been received requesting Surrey County Council to install a traffic light pedestrian crossing at the existing crossing on Camphill Road, next to West Byfleet Infant School and West Byfleet Junior School. The petition also requests increased signage indicating that vehicles are approaching a school site. This will ensure traffic slows down from both directions and will enforce that vehicles stop and follow the Highway Code.

The petition response is included within this supplementary agenda.

4 PETITION: SPEED RESTRICTION AND TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES SOUTH NUTFIELD

(Pages 9 - 12)

One petition has been received requesting Surrey County Council to introduce traffic and speed calming measures in South Nutfield to protect the residents of Nutfield and our community. The petition states that residents have serious and long standing concerns regarding speeding and erratic driving / poor parking in the village of South Nutfield, with particular concern for Kings Cross Lane, near Christ Church, and Mid Street where the local School, Nutfield Church Primary, is located. Residents would like to open up a dialogue with the council to discuss speed calming measures that residents, as a community, collectively know are needed to ensure the safety of the local school children, parishioners and members of the local community. Residents are seeing a continued issue with speeding and dangerous driving / parking throughout the village and there have been a number of near misses with children coming out of Christ Church and from the primary school. Another regular hotspot for accidents and near misses is on the junction of Kings Cross Lane and Kings Mill Lane / Bower Hill Lane.

The petition response is included within this supplementary agenda.

Terence Herbert Chief Executive

Published: 13 December 2024

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Thank you for your co-operation.

QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

Cabinet and most committees will consider questions by elected Surrey County Council Members and questions and petitions from members of the public who are electors in the Surrey County Council area.

Please note the following regarding questions from the public:

- 1. Members of the public can submit one written question to a meeting by the deadline stated in the agenda. Questions should relate to general policy and not to detail. Questions are asked and answered in public and cannot relate to "confidential" or "exempt" matters (for example, personal or financial details of an individual); for further advice please contact the committee manager listed on the front page of an agenda.
- 2. The number of public questions which can be asked at a meeting may not exceed six. Questions which are received after the first six will be held over to the following meeting or dealt with in writing at the Chairman's discretion.
- 3. Questions will be taken in the order in which they are received.
- 4. Questions will be asked and answered without discussion. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a question, provide a written reply or nominate another Member to answer the question.
- 5. Following the initial reply, one supplementary question may be asked by the questioner. The Chairman or Cabinet members may decline to answer a supplementary question.



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PROCEDURAL MATTERS - MEMBER QUESTIONS

1. Question submitted by CIIr Catherine Baart

I note that the "Spring Clean" of roads and pavements has already begun in Leatherhead Guildford and Ashford. I note a full programme of works is planned for the rest of the county, and the county council proposes to spend an additional £5M in 25/26 on tidying up roads and pavements.

I would like to understand how the proposed extra £5M will be spent across the county on different "tidying up" actions, compared to the work carried out this year. Please could you provide a breakdown of how the proposed additional £5M will be spent, by type of activity for each district/borough, please give the breakdown by cost and also by % increase in hours compared to this year.

Would you consider a scheme by which residents undertake to carry out weed control themselves on particular roads, in preference to glyphosate weedkillers being used?

Reply:

As you may have seen from my recent communications with all Members (most recently on 5 December 2024), we are undertaking significant work to improve the local network. As an elected Member, you are encouraged to suggest areas where you would like us to focus our efforts.

The £5 million allocated for next year will be used to support various initiatives aimed at enhancing both the visual appeal of the network and, importantly, how it can be accessed by our residents. The planned works will include vegetation clearance and the restoration of rural footways where detritus has reduced their effective width. I have asked Officers to review different options, and the intended allocation of this additional funding for 2025/26 is as follows:

- £1.5 million: Additional grass cutting resources
- £0.25 million: Additional weed treatment
- £2.0 million: Roadside Rangers
- £0.5 million: Extensive flailing programme
- £0.25 million: Additional highway tree works
- £0.5 million: Contingency / staffing / to be determined

Further details of the new activities planned for 2025 are provided below:

Additional Grass Cutting

This funding will ensure that there are at least three grass cutting crews per district, which will help maintain the cutting programme and prevent delays.

Additional Weed Treatment

This funding will allow for a second countywide weed treatment in June or July, should growing conditions warrant it. Weeds have been a significant concern for some residents in 2024, and we are keen to prevent a recurrence next year.

Roadside Rangers

Members have already been informed about the range of tasks these new teams will undertake. The plan is to deploy eight two-person gangs for the entire year (with additional

resources for traffic management, as necessary). This equates to approximately 16,000 gang hours annually across the network. These gangs will be deployed throughout the County, and I have requested Officers to keep Divisional Members regularly updated. The process for requesting specific works is outlined in my email of 5 December 2024.

Extensive Flailing Programme

This programme will be carried out, where needed, countywide outside of the bird nesting season. It will help ensure that carriageways and footways are not overgrown, making these important assets more accessible to our residents.

Additional Highway Tree Works

Highway trees are a vital asset, and it is crucial that they are regularly inspected and any safety-related works are completed promptly. This additional funding will target identified defects and help maintain the safety of the network.

Contingency / Staffing/ To Be Determined

This portion of the funding will be used to cover staff resources needed to have manage the additional activity, and any remaining will be allocated during the year, based on feedback from Members, residents, and the actual costs incurred.

The resources outlined above are for use across the entire county and have not been split on a district-by-district basis. The exception is grass cutting and weed control which are priced on an individual district basis, with work allocated through our competitively tendered countryside framework contract.

These resources and associated works are in addition to those initially planned for 2025. An allocation of £3 million for 2024/25 was made late in the financial year, allowing for the commencement of the roadside ranger programme, the flailing programme, additional tree works, and the mobilisation of grass cutting contractors and weed control specialists to begin work in March. Without this additional funding, this would not have been possible. Weed control is important not just for the look of the streetscene but also it helps to protect our highway network from damage that weeds can cause. Therefore, in the first instance we would not look to remove roads from the programme and pass sole responsibility onto residents. However, if residents of an area are keen to assist, we would welcome this and have an established "Community Highways Volunteer" scheme (details can be found via the link here). This scheme does include weed removal, where it is safe for volunteers to do so. Should a volunteering scheme prove to be successful and maintain momentum, we can consider removing individual footways / roads from weed spraying on a case by case basis.

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<u>PETITION TITLE: Traffic lights outside West Byfleet Infant and Junior schools on busy</u> <u>Camphill Road</u>

Statement:

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to install a traffic light pedestrian crossing at the existing crossing on Camphill Road, next to West Byfleet Infant School and West Byfleet Junior School. We also request increased signage indicating that vehicles are approaching a school site. This will ensure traffic slows down from both directions and will enforce that vehicles stop and follow the Highway Code.

Justification:

We feel this request is vital as soon as possible because of many recent instances of near misses (with video footage), previous accidents having happened and the constant concern that a serious accident may happen soon.

The crossing is dangerous and needs upgrading because:

- * the zebra crossing markings are extremely faded
- * the beacon lights are not working (one does not flash at all)
- * there is limited signage across the school sites for the public to alert drivers on their approach
- * there are hardly any speed limit signs along Camphill Road so drivers exceed the 30mph limit regularly.
- * some drivers assume the crossing is just another speed hump.

A zebra crossing is not sufficient for the volume of cars especially during school drop off and pick up. We request the immediate upgrade of this crossing to traffic light provision to protect our children and parents on what should be a safe crossing for school.

Thank you for listening.

Submitted by: Celia Ford

Signatures: 127

Response:

Many thanks for highlighting your concerns over road safety on this stretch of road. School road safety is a frequently expressed issue at school drop off and pick up times. We are sympathetic to these concerns and have developed a policy which describes the process we will use for investigating and responding to school road safety problems. Our aim is to reduce the risk of collisions, to make the road feel safer, and to encourage more people to consider walking or cycling to and from school. The policy can be viewed via this link: Road safety outside schools - Surrey County Council

Road safety education and training for children is just as important as improving the infrastructure for road users outside schools. Schools and parents have a vital role to play in child pedestrian and cycle training and encouraging responsible attitudes to using motor vehicles as children grow older. Therefore, an assessment of the road safety education

provided within a school will always be undertaken alongside an assessment of the road safety situation outside the school gate. The county council provide a range of resources for delivering road safety education and training that can be viewed here: Road safety and sustainable travel for schools - Surrey County Council

Consequently, at the time of writing a site visit has been scheduled to take place during a school journey time in December. This will include road safety and highway specialists from the county council and police, with representatives from the school and the local County Councillor invited to attend too.

The output will be a report with recommendations for infrastructure improvements that could be considered (subject to future funding being available), along with recommendations for any initiatives that the school could undertaken to improve road safety education and training.

The maintenance issues highlighted in the petition (namely the faded white lining and the defective Belisha Beacons) have been passed onto our maintenance colleagues and were rectified during the week beginning 2 December. Henceforth residents can report such issues using the county council's <u>fixmystreet</u> reporting system.

Surrey Police can act if there is evidence of driving offences captured by video. These can be reported and accompanying video can be uploaded via the following link: Making a road traffic incident report | Surrey Police

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PETITION TITLE: Speed restriction and traffic calming measures South Nutfield

Statement:

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to introduce traffic and speed calming measures in South Nutfield to protect the residents of Nutfield and our community. We have serious and long standing concerns regarding speeding and erratic driving / poor parking in the village of South Nutfield, with particular concern for Kings Cross Lane, near Christ Church, and Mid Street where the local School, Nutfield Church Primary, is located. We would like to open up a dialogue with you to discuss speed calming measures that we, as a community, collectively know are needed to ensure the safety of the local school children, parishioners and members of the local community. We are seeing a continued issue with speeding and dangerous driving / parking throughout the village and there have been a number of near misses with children coming out of Christ Church and from the primary school. Another regular hotspot for accidents and near misses is on the junction of Kings Cross Lane and Kings Mill Lane / Bower Hill Lane.

Justification:

We would like to see safety and calming measures put in place to protect the residents of Nutfield and our community and would suggest some traffic calming measures such as: Suggested calming measures:

- Speed bumps along Mid Street and Kings Cross Lane
- 20 mile per hour speed limit in the village with 15 mile per hour speed limit outside the school
- Pedestrian crossing outside the school
- "SLOW" markings on the roads / SLOW signs (LED sign)
- Speed camera along Kings Cross Lane
- One way priority
- Double yellow lines on the junction of The Avenue and Kings Cross Lane to prevent parking close to the junction

t is only a matter of time before a child or member of the community is seriously hurt or killed in an accident and we feel it is unacceptable to wait for this to happen before something is done about these issues.

Submitted by: Kara Doye

Signatures: 172

RESPONSE:

Thank you for sharing the results of the petition for speed calming measures and pedestrian crossing improvements in South Nutfield.

South Nutfield is a village located to the south of the A25 and east of the M23. Kings Cross Lane is D-Class road that runs east-west through the village, with the majority of the properties within South Nutfield located on the north side this road. Christ Church is located on the south side of Kings Cross Lane along with Queens Court (a small housing

development) and a row of properties to the east of the junction with Crab Hill Lane. Mid Street runs north-south through the village, it has the local primary school, entrance to mid-street recreation ground, local shop/post office. There is a narrow railway bridge on Mid Street which is only sufficiently wide enough for one-way working and therefore has a priority give-way system in place, however this is the only formal traffic calming measure on Mid Street.

Both Mid Street and Kings Cross Lane have a 30mph speed limit in place within South Nutfield. Although street lighting is present on both Mid Street and Kings Cross Lane, it is not regularly spaced and therefore 30mph repeater signs are in place on both roads.

It is acknowledged that residents are concerned about the speed of traffic and road safety on Kings Cross Lane and Mid Street as well as at the Kings Cross Lane/Kings Mill Lane/Bower Hill Lane. There are many more requests to reduce speed limits, install pedestrian crossings and/or traffic calming measures on roads throughout the County, than it is possible to achieve in any given year, and therefore these schemes have to be prioritised. The roads which have a history of personal injury collisions, where speed is a contributory factor in those collisions are to be considered first.

An assessment of the personal injury collision data provided by Surrey Police, has been carried out on Mid Street and Kings Cross Lane which shows that there has been one personal injury collision on Mid Street and one personal injury collision on Kings Cross Lane during the most recent 3-year period for which data is available (from 01/07/2021 to 30/06/2024). However, Surrey Police did not record vehicle speed as a contributory factor in the cause of these collisions. An assessment of the personal injury collision data provided by Surrey Police also shows that no personal injury collisions were recorded at the Kings Cross Lane/Kings Mill Lane/Bower Hill Lane during this 3-year period.

Although any one collision is one too many, this does not represent a very large problem in terms of road casualties compared to many other sites across Surrey. Summary data on collisions is available to view on the national website www.crashmap.co.uk.

Irrespective of the number of collisions resulting in injury, we are sympathetic to the concerns over vehicle speeds and pedestrian safety, particularly near to Nutfield Church of England Primary School.

Surrey County Council's new 20mph Speed Limit Policy "Vision Zero Road Safety Strategy 2024-2035" advises that if the recorded measured mean speeds are at or below 24mph a successful 20mph speed limit could be installed using a Traffic Regulation Order and signs alone. If recorded measured mean speeds are between 25mph - 28mph then "light touch" supporting measures will be required to ensure that vehicle speeds are reduced successfully. These could consist of (but not limited to), additional speed limit carriageway roundels, electronic vehicle activated signs and enhanced speed limit gateways. However, if the measured mean speeds are above 28mph supporting engineering measures, such as traffic calming, would need to be installed to achieve vehicle speeds close enough to 20mph in these roads. There is currently no up to date speed survey data available for Mid Street or Kings Cross Lane.

However, currently each year Local County Councillors have a small amount of funding available to them to allocate towards small scale schemes, such as carrying out speed surveys and the installation of reduced speed limits, using signs alone, to address local road safety concerns. The first step would be to carry out surveys to investigate further the

possibility of installing a 20mph speed limit using signs alone on Mid Street and Kings Cross Lane. If the surveys show that traffic calming measures would be needed to achieve a 20mph speed limit, your County Councillor could choose to promote a 20mph/traffic calming scheme for possible future prioritisation for funding and delivery.

This location has been added to the list for future speed surveys to be carried out in March 2025 (when weather conditions improve and vehicle speeds are more accurately recorded), to assess the feasible measures that need to be installed to support a 20mph speed limit. This will then help assess the level of funding required to install a successful 20mph speed limit. The results of the surveys will be shared with your County Councillor and their consideration given to whether this scheme could be prioritised for taking forward within the limited resources and funding available.

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