



**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)**

**PETITIONS  
(ADDITIONAL STATEMENT)**

**9 MAY 2014**

**Petition title: Introduce a 20mph zone in Haslemere Town Centre and roads in Haslemere that want them.**

Mrs Victoria Leake is unable to present the petition in person, but has requested that the following statement in support be made available to the Committee:

Eight million people in the UK now live in a local authority that has 20 mph as the default limit for residential streets. Slower speeds encourage more cyclists and walkers (both up by 20% in Bristol). There has also been a 42% reduction in casualties in London's 20 mph areas. Moreover the impact on journey times is negligible: typically in 20mph areas there has been an increase of just 40 seconds. Engineers will tell you that heavy traffic merges faster at slower speeds, as regularly witnessed on the M25. (20's plenty)

There is no need for huge expenditure on traffic bumps or chicanes, due to the fact that if the person in front of you is going at 20 mph motorists will have no choice but to go at 20 mph. The convoy effect comes into play:, most citizens are law abiding. In Portsmouth, where there is no physical calming, casualties have fallen by 22%.

According to a survey done by the charity Brake and Allianz Insurance, "80% of public back 20 mph speed limits in urban areas. Almost eight in every 10 Brits agree that the 30 mph limit should be cut to 20 mph in town centres and on residential streets."

I am still awaiting the completion of a Freedom of Information request from Surrey County Council on the number of people who have written in over the past ten years regarding the concerns of speeds in Haslemere, Surrey. When I have this information I will forward it onto the Local Committee. In the meantime I ask you to consider the following petition:

In four years there have been four KSI (Killed and Seriously Injured) in a stretch of road less than a mile long. Between the hours of 0900 to 19.00, 40000 cars pass through Lower Street Haslemere and possibly the town centre per week. Pedestrian and cyclists are not safe, the roads are narrow with little or no footpaths. We petition the County Council and the police to make our roads safer by introducing a 20 mph zone in Haslemere Town Centre and other residential roads in Haslemere should the residents want it.