SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2014

LEAD JOHN HILDER

OFFICER: AREA TEAM MANAGER

SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PETITION: A283 CHIDDINGFOLD

DIVISION: WAVERLEY EASTERN VILLAGES

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

- 1. At the Committee's meeting on 26 September 2014 Ms W Lockwood presented a petition on behalf of the Chiddingfold Road Traffic Group requesting the installation of average speed cameras on the A283 through the village. The petitioners drew the Committee's attention to the risk to residents' health arising from the high levels of vehicle noise recorded, especially at night, and to the extent of non-compliance with the 30mph speed limit in place. Recognising that neither Surrey Police nor a Community Speed Watch are in a position to undertake intensive enforcement, it was hoped that the County Council would take note of the effective use elsewhere of the new breed of average speed cameras and consider their introduction here.
- 2. The Chairman indicated that a response would be reported to the Committee at its meeting on 12 December 2014; in the meantime the Area Team Manager (Local Highways Services) would ensure that the matter is included in the relevant Local Task Group's discussion on priorities for 2015/16.
- 3. Average speed cameras are undoubtedly effective in promoting a high compliance with the speed limit for through traffic passing both units, although they are unlikely to influence the behaviour of those drivers making trips which pass only one camera or neither camera.
- 4. The County Council does not have a policy in place for prioritising sites for average speed camera systems, and none have been installed in Surrey as yet. The Highways Road Safety Team advise that the policy covering spot speed cameras (yellow box cameras) follows national criteria which prioritise locations with a history of collisions resulting in serious and fatal injuries and where measured speeds are excessive. The Safety Team reports that they will be developing a policy for average speed cameras which will follow the same criteria, with this new type of camera system reserved for the very worst collision hotspots where speeding has been confirmed as a problem. The reason for this approach is to maintain public support for safety cameras, and to ensure that the greatest reduction in casualties is achieved for the money invested. The Police database of reported accidents resulting in injuries indicates two slight injury collisions on the A283 through Chiddingfold over the last three years, which is not considered a high accident rate.
- 5. The indicative costs provided by Siemens Safe Zone for leasing the equipment are £80 per day, which equates to £29,200 per year or £87,600 over three years. Siemens put the outright purchase cost of a two camera system at £75,000 to £85,000. As above, compliance is expected to be high, but the County Council

- has yet to investigate any revenue stream that might be associated with driver awareness training resulting in the introduction of an average speed camera system.
- 6. The request for average speed cameras was discussed at the Cranleigh and Eastern Villages Task Group meeting in November and, in the absence of policy guidance, this scheme was not prioritised for inclusion in the 2015/16 Integrated Transport Scheme programme.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Waverley) is asked to agree the response provided.

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John Hilder, Area Highways Manager: 03456 009 009.

Consulted:

N/A

Annexes:

None

Sources/background papers: None