

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)****DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2014****LEAD
OFFICER: JOHN HILDER
AREA TEAM MANAGER****SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO PETITION: EWHURST ROAD, CRANLEIGH
DIVISION: CRANLEIGH AND EWHURST****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

1. At the Committee's meeting on 26 September 2014 Mr M Creak presented an online petition requesting the replacement of the zebra crossing on Ewhurst Road, Cranleigh (near the junctions with New Park Road and St Nicolas Avenue) with a pelican crossing (traffic lights) or a school crossing patrol. Attention was drawn to a number of "near misses" which had been experienced by pedestrians when on the crossing and it was suggested that, while parental education as to the rules relating to zebra crossings might be helpful, either of the two solutions proposed by the petitioners would offer greater clarity to all users at this location.
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. Prior to the submission of this petition parents had raised concerns about safety at this zebra crossing, particularly for schoolchildren attending nearby schools who regularly cross here in numbers. As a result Surrey County Council (SCC) Highways and Police road safety officers visited Ewhurst Road to observe the crossing on several occasions including at the end of the school day. They concluded that not all those using the zebra crossing were following the rules for pedestrians using crossings which are set out in the Highway Code, so exposing themselves to risk. These include 'when using any type of crossing you should always check that the traffic has stopped before you start to cross or push a pram onto a crossing'. This rule applies to pelican crossings, toucan crossings (both signal controlled), zebra crossings and red man/green man aspects at traffic signal junctions.
4. SCC highways officers have been in contact with the Headteacher of St Cuthbert Mayne Catholic Primary School to encourage the school to participate in pedestrian awareness training, which would include practical training on the zebra crossing in question. To date this offer has not been taken up by the school, but it is hoped that the training will take place in the new year.
5. A Stage 3 safety audit of the zebra crossing has also been carried out by the SCC Road Safety Audit Team which recommended that "halo" boards be added to the orange flashing beacons to increase conspicuity, as well as signing upgrades and extending the parking restrictions already associated with the zebra crossing.
6. The request for a signal controlled crossing to replace the zebra was considered

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by the Cranleigh and Eastern Villages Task Group meeting in November. In the knowledge of the actions and investigations taken to date by both SCC Highways and the Police, the task group did not prioritise a signal crossing scheme, but did prioritise the measures arising from the safety audit described above. However, this scheme was not prioritised by the Local Transport Plan Task Group who felt that restrictions could be addressed under the next parking review and signing and halos might be funded by the local county councillor.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

Contact Officer:

John Hilder, Area Highways Manager: 03456 009 009.

Consulted:

N/A

Annexes:

None

Sources/background papers: None