

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)

DATE: 11 December 2015

SUBJECT: Public Question

DIVISION: Oxted



With regards to the A25 Limpsfield, Ann Osborn asks

Please may I start by thanking Mr Skellett and the Local Committee for obtaining approval from the Cabinet Member for Highways to reduce the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph on the A 25 outside the school. May I also thank the Road Safety officers for visiting the school to consider road safety issues and proposing the improvements in the Road Safety Outside Schools report you have before you today.

My question relates to those improvements in terms of cost and time scales. The estimated cost of the improvements in the Road Safety report is £26,000 - £33,000 but the Tandridge Transport Scheme Programme lists only £20,000. I would be grateful to know how the likely shortfall in costs might be covered, though I realise that the detailed design has not been completed.

Also these proposals do not include a signalised pedestrian crossing, though the report expresses the school's great concern that if the two school patrol officers were to leave, they would not be replaceable. Many parents park in the National Trust car park by the golf club and cross the busy A25 with their children, in the morning and afternoon. Without the school patrol officers this could be very dangerous, especially if the proposed Moorhouse Tile Site Planning application were to go ahead with the resulting increase in vans and lorries. Whilst we realise that the cost of such a crossing is considerable, I hope that the Local Committee might be able to access funds to provide this much needed crossing.

Could I close by asking for a likely date of completion of the agreed 30mph limit and the proposed double yellow lines? In addition what is the likely time scale for completion of the recommended road safety improvements in the report, in the hopeful assumption that these are agreed today?

Response:

The proposals set out in both the Highways Forward Programme and the Road Safety Outside Schools reports on this agenda are subject to Local Committee approval. The projected Local Committee devolved budget for capital highways improvement schemes for 2016/17 is lower than the budget received in 2015/16. There are numerous demands on this limited budget and it has not been possible to allocate more than £20,000 to progress the proposals set out in the Road Safety Outside Schools report. Without detailed design of the proposals, it is not possible to

say whether there will be a shortfall in funding and if so, by how much. It is envisaged that if there is insufficient funding, the divisional Member will be consulted on which elements to prioritise for delivery in 2016/17. Further funding would then be sought to enable the works to be completed early in 2017/18.

There is no funding allocated in the proposed 2016/17 – 2017/17 forward programmed as there is currently a school crossing patrol operating on the A25 Westerham Road. A signalised pedestrian crossing where the school crossing patrol currently operates is likely to cost in excess of the total Tandridge Local Committee's annual budget for capital highway improvement schemes. To fund such a proposal, the Local Committee would need to consider providing the money across two financial years. Officers will pursue alternative funding sources, such as developer contributions, where appropriate.

The Speed Limit Order for the reduction of the speed limit on the A25 Westerham Road outside Limpsfield Infant School is being progressed and it is anticipated that it will be advertised before Christmas. Delegated authority is in place to enable any objections to be considered without bringing a further report to Tandridge Local Committee. Assuming there are no objections that are upheld, the Speed Limit Order will be made and the reduced speed limit implemented this financial year.

The proposed double yellow lines are being progressed by the Parking Team as part of the 2015/16 Tandridge Parking Review. The proposals were advertised at the end of June and the responses have now been analysed. The Parking Team are discussing the results with Members. It is anticipated that the lining works will be completed by the end of the financial year.

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