

SURREY HEATH LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE

10 MARCH 2016

WRITTEN PUBLIC QUESTIONS

**Question 1**    *Murray Rowlands*

Proposal: Surrey to merge with East and West Sussex.

Could the members of this committee seriously contemplate Surrey merging with East and West Sussex?

For the first time there is a reorganisation proposal to cross a county boundary always an argument against a Blackwater Valley Unitary Authority. As Surrey Heath's best interests seem largely ignored at the London Borough of Kingston Upon Thames is it not now time to promote this alternative?

Response on behalf of the Committee

Surrey authorities have joined forces with West Sussex and East Sussex councils to pursue a devolution deal with government. Known as the 'Three Southern Counties' (3SC), the proposal aims to improve outcomes for local residents and businesses through:

- economic growth;
- enhanced productivity; and
- a transformation in public service delivery.

Discussions are at an early stage.

**Question 2**    *Ruth Hutchinson*

How long should we wait to expect a bulb to be changed in a Belisha beacon on a Safer Ways to school crossing on Guildford Road Bagshot, adjacent to Freemantle Nursery Estate?

Response on behalf of the Committee

After a fault with an illuminated signs & bollards has been raised, Skanska have three working days to attend site and assess the situation. If the fault can be repaired using minor components, the crew attending will fix the issue at that time. However, if the fault cannot be repaired then an order will be raised and the unit will need to be repaired at a later date.

A review of the history for the belisha beacons on Guildford Road, Bagshot shows that no fault has been raised since 2014. A visit to the site has identified that the beacon on the north side of the road is faulty and has been raised with Skanska through the electronic form on Surrey County Council's website.