

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (Elmbridge)

DATE:

LEAD OFFICER: Edward Cowley

OFFICER:

SUBJECT: ROAD SAFETY OUTSIDE SCHOOLS PROGRESS REPORT
Hinchley Wood Primary
Hinchley Wood Secondary

DIVISION: Elmbridge Division



<p><u>SUMMARY OF ISSUE:</u></p> <p>Concern has been expressed over the safety of children arriving and leaving Hinchley Wood Primary and Hinchley Wood Secondary Schools and the associated congestion caused by school journey traffic. This report outlines actions taken so far to date in the investigation of these problems and makes reference to the type of measures that could be used to tackle the issues as highlighted by the petition that was received by the Elmbridge Local Committee on issues facing school children attending the above schools.</p>
<p><u>RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to note that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Further work is being undertaken on the feasibility of introducing highway measures in accordance to the councils approved policy. (ii) Detailed highway improvements will be recommended in a future report to the Elmbridge Local Committee in October 2016. Any proposals presented within this report are added to the Elmbridge list of possible future highway improvements and are prioritised alongside other schemes using the countywide scheme assessment process. This will take into account the likely effect of the proposals on congestion, accessibility, safety, economy and future maintenance liabilities. (iii) Both Hinchley Wood Primary and Secondary schools will be consulted on the proposals and be asked to take on board any Road Safety Education and School Travel Plan measures that are proposed within this and future reports.
<p><u>REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:</u></p> <p>The outcome of this process will result in the likely recommendation of highway measures that would help to reduce antisocial parking and would improve the road environment to encourage more walking, scooting and cycling to school. A successful increase in these modes would contribute to fewer car journeys and less motor vehicle congestion. The recommended school travel plan and road safety education would also help to address road safety concerns and reduce reliance on the car for the school journey.</p>

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:
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- 1.1 One of the most frequently expressed road safety concerns is that of the safety of children outside schools. At school drop off and pick up times the roads in the immediate vicinity of schools are especially busy and there is usually a higher level of vehicle, pedestrian, scooter and cyclist activity. This can mean that the highway infrastructure is under the most pressure at this time, for example for pedestrian crossings. It causes congestion resulting in slower vehicle speeds and very often leads to frustration from residents and motorists at the apparent chaos caused by parents and children arriving or leaving the school.
- 1.2 Concerns have been expressed via a resident petition (presented to Elmbridge Committee in December 2015) over the safety of children arriving and leaving Hinchley Wood Secondary School and Hinchley Wood Primary School. There have also been ongoing concerns over the dangers children face crossing Manor Road North and using Claygate Lane to get to school, and the unsuitability of the current crossing provision on Manor Road North.
- 1.3 A series of site visits during school drop off and pick up times have been conducted during February and March 2016. These assessments have been carried out by the following; Road Safety Audit Team, School Sustainable Travel Team, Surrey Police and Local Highway Engineers. An additional technical meeting has taken place between Road Safety Audit Team, the School Sustainable Travel Team and Highways Engineers. Further casualty analysis has been commissioned and additional speed surveys have been requested to ensure that detailed recommendations can be made. Several additional visits have been made by all stakeholders and detailed observations notes have been compiled which will form the basis of our full report to Local Committee in October.
- 1.4 Since the site assessments have taken place both schools are looking at a number of new road safety education measures. Both schools will be required to update their School Travel Plans as part of this process.
- 1.5 A future report to the October 2016 Local Committee will fully describe the results of investigations into these issues and will present highway and road safety education improvements to address the problems identified. These have been developed in accordance with the county council's Road Safety Outside Schools policy approved by county council Cabinet on 24 June 2014.
- 1.6 The measures recommended will take in to consideration the increase in the school populations as both primary and secondary schools have expanded as part of the SCC's basic needs program, and are not currently at their intended capacity.

2. ANALYSIS:

- 2.1 A report will be brought to the next local committee which will focus on the component s listed below; this will provide a detailed analysis of each school specified.
 - a. A list and options of potential highways improvement measures
 - b. Site Description and Existing Infrastructure

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- c. Perceived Problems
- d. Analysis of Road Collision Data
- e. Post Code and Sustainable Travel Data
- f. Road User Behaviour Observations
- g. School Travel Plan and Road Safety Education
- h. It has been agreed as a result of the site assessment that a full detailed options appraisal of the current crossing provision on Manor Road North will be carried out and the recommendations will be brought to October's Local Committee meeting.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 A report will be brought to the October 2016 committee which will outline various options that have been appraised as part of this process; these are likely to include the following:
- a. Potential shared footpath from the northern entrance of the secondary school to the northern entrance of the primary school.
 - b. Possible widening of traffic island on Manor Road North or introduce additional pedestrian refuge nearer the bus stop at the northern end.
 - c. Possible zebra crossing on Manor Road North in the vicinity of Claygate Lane, incorporating a cycling crossing point at Angel Road.
 - d. Possible signalised Toucan crossing on Manor Road North incorporating cycle links to Angel Road.
 - e. Potential to enhance original school signage including school warning signs on Manor Road North.
 - f. Possible inclusion of Wig Wags (amber flashing lights) on Claygate Lane.
 - g. Dropped Kerb facility for School Crossing Patrol location.
 - h. Marked out "Keep Clear" passing places
 - i. Bollards to prevent antisocial parking on the verge at the junction of Claygate Lane, and the cycle path.
 - j. Potential for double yellow lining on Chesterfield Drive which is being considered under the Elmbridge Parking Review.
- 3.2 The future report will provide detailed explanations of why and how these different measures could assist in alleviating the current problems. This will also include estimated costs. It will then be for the members of the Elmbridge Local Committee to decide if these measures will receive funding.

4. CONSULTATIONS:

- 4.1 Site visits have been undertaken during February and March which has included police colleagues, local highway engineers, road safety team and sustainable travel team.
- 4.2 The Divisional and Local Members and Schools Leadership Teams have been consulted as part of this process.
- 4.3 The School will be consulted on the final proposed options.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

- 5.1 The proposals that will be presented will need to be prioritised alongside other schemes within Elmbridge using the countywide scheme assessment process to ensure value for money. This will take into account the likely effect of the proposals on congestion, accessibility, safety, economy and future maintenance liabilities. Any recommended school travel plan and road safety education activities could be delivered using existing staff resources.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

- 6.1 This report has been created in accordance with the council's Road Safety Outside Schools Policy which has been subject to Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment. Highway improvements are subject to independent road safety audit which takes into account the needs of all road users including those with mobility impairment.

7. LOCALISM:

- 7.1 Future proposals presented within further reports will be developed following consultation with the Local and Divisional Member and School Leadership Teams. If implemented they would help address road safety concerns and encourage more walking, cycling and scooting to school and would help reduce car journeys, anti social parking and congestion which have a negative impact on the local community.

8. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 8.1 It is recommended that the Elmbridge Local Committee note the progress so far and a full report will be brought to October 2016 Local Committee for consideration.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 A detailed report covering highway measure options on both Manor Road North and Claygate Lane schools will be brought to the October 2016 Local Committee for consideration.

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Consulted:

Surrey Police
Divisional Members
School Senior Management Teams

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