

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (TANDRIDGE)**

**DATE: 24 June 2016**

**SUBJECT: Public Question: Reducing the speed limit on Rockshaw Road,  
RH1 3DE**

**DIVISION: Godstone**



Dianne Vassalo, supported by Rockshaw Road Residents' Association, asks:

The section of Rockshaw Road between its junction with Warwick Wold Road and the motorway bridge currently carries a maximum speed limit of 50mph which drops to 30mph in the section of Rockshaw Road within Reigate & Banstead (after the bridge). The 50mph limit is frequently exceeded in both directions as motorists accelerate immediately when entering this section from either end, with vehicles being driven well in excess of the 50mph along the Tandridge section and continue without slowing down into the Reigate & Banstead end of Rockshaw Road. Chaldon Rise Care Home receives a large number of daily visitors and they along with residents of neighbouring properties have often been overtaken by speeding cars whilst attempting to turn right into our driveways. There have been several accidents in winter months when cars travelling at speed are unable to stop and end up crashing into the adjoining field or in the wall outside Rockshaw Lodge at the end of the road. Most recently a speeding vehicle careered into the railings over the Motorway Bridge which could have resulted in catastrophe had the vehicle dropped onto the motorway below. Also stray horses from Travellers Rest had to be rounded up by my son before a serious accident occurred as cars were not prepared to slow down to avoid them. On this occasion Police attended the scene. Used as a cut through, Rockshaw Road is extremely busy during the morning and afternoon commute and traffic is always fast. The residents believe our safety is paramount and consider it dangerous and confusing to have differing speed limits and that therefore the limit within the Tandridge section should be reduced to be in line with the rest of the road and be subject to a maximum speed limit of 30mph.

**Response:**

Rockshaw Road in Tandridge is a rural single carriageway 2 lane road between Warwick Wold Road and the Tandridge District boundary at the M23 over bridge. Rockshaw Road continues as a residential road to join the A23 in Reigate & Banstead at Merstham. The speed limit on the section of Rockshaw Road in Tandridge is 50mph and on the section of Rockshaw Road in Reigate & Banstead the speed limit is 30mph.

A review of the recorded personal injury collisions over the 3 year period April 2013 to March 2016 (the latest date for which data is available) has been carried out. There were 2 reported collisions involving slight personal injury in 2013, both of which occurred at the junction with Rockshaw Road and Warwick Wold Road. As part of the reporting process, the Police log their views as to the contributory factors leading to a collision. In neither of these collisions did the Police record 'exceeding the speed limit' or 'travelling too fast for conditions' as contributory factors.

Surrey County Council does not hold any speed data for Rockshaw Road. In March 2016 Tandridge Local Committee allocated £2,500 of their revenue budget to fund speed surveys, which are carried out using automatic traffic count equipment over a continuous 7 day period to comply with Surrey's Speed Limit Policy. Rockshaw Road will be added to the list of roads to be assessed in Tandridge and once the location for the survey site has been identified and agreed, the surveys will be ordered. It should be noted that speed surveys should not be carried out if the results would be affected by other factors eg adverse weather conditions.

The results of the speed surveys will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member. If measured mean speeds comply with Surrey's Policy "Setting Local Speed Limits" for a speed limit reduction to 30mph on Rockshaw, then Rockshaw Road can be added to the list of schemes for consideration for future Local Committee funding.

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