



Surrey County Council Local Committee (Guildford) 22 June 2016

Member Questions and Statements

Submitted by Councillor Caroline Reeves, Guildford Borough Council

"Since the store opened last year I have had extensive correspondence with SCC Highways and the manager at Waitrose about the issue of the phasing of the lights and the road markings. In addition to the concerns raised by the residents, which I fully support, I have two questions:

I believe that in the early stages of the design of the road layout, Waitrose had wanted a yellow box to stop those exiting the car park blocking the cars queuing back from the York Road roundabout but it was thought this was unnecessary. In the light of the problems we have seen, would this add clarity for all drivers?

Please could we be given an explanation of the timing on the sequencing of the pedestrian phase? "

Response

Waitrose's detailed design of the A246 York Road / Waitrose store traffic signal junction did not include a junction box marking. Waitrose requested permission for a junction half box on the A246 westbound lanes in front of the store access at the end of 2015. However, a subsequent assessment indicated this box marking was not warranted. A246 westbound traffic was not observed to queue back across the Waitrose junction.

We do not think that a junction full or half box on the A246 would improve road user behaviour. The issues are associated with drivers not obeying traffic signals, or having doubt over their manoeuvres, and pedestrians not always crossing on a 'green man'; not about traffic queues blocking turns.

The A246 York Road / Waitrose store traffic signal junction operates in four phases / stages, as follows:

- Phase / stage 1: Both A246 eastbound and westbound ahead traffic go. The pedestrian crossing over the Waitrose store exit lane is allowed. All other traffic and pedestrian movements are stopped / not allowed.
- Phase / stage 2: A246 eastbound and right turn traffic go. The pedestrian crossings over Waitrose store exit lane and the A246 westbound lanes are allowed. All other traffic and pedestrian movements are stopped / not allowed.
- Phase / stage 3: Waitrose store exit traffic goes. The pedestrian crossings over Waitrose store entry lane and the A246 westbound lanes are allowed. All other traffic and pedestrian movements are stopped / not allowed.
- Phase / stage 4: A246 westbound traffic goes. The pedestrian crossings over Waitrose store exit lane and the A246 eastbound lanes are allowed. All other traffic and pedestrian movements are stopped / not allowed.
(Cycle repeats).

The time allowed for each traffic phase / stage is variable and dependent on demand at this junction and elsewhere, because the junction is part of the Guildford town centre urban traffic control system. The signal settings include sufficient time for pedestrians to cross the road during the pedestrian stages.