

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)

DATE: 05 March 2018

SUBJECT: PETITION – to improve pedestrian safety and introduce speed reduction measures on Park Road, Banstead

DIVISION: Banstead, Woodmansterne and Chipstead



PETITION DETAILS:

On behalf of the 800 residents and local users of the road who signed the petition we ask you to consider the following proposals;

1. The 60mph speed limit on the southern part of the road is replaced with a 40mph limit.
2. Introduce a 20mph speed limit for 300 metres either side of Banstead Place where QEF is located.
3. Refresh and increase signage in the road to encourage drivers to reduce their speed.
4. Install electronic number plate recognition signs to reinforce these speed limits.
5. Designate Park Road as being unsuitable for HGV's.
6. Undertake measures to increase pedestrian safety on those parts of the road with no pavement.

OFFICER COMMENT:

Park Road, Banstead connects Chipstead in the south to the eastern end of Banstead High Street. Its southern end is rural in nature, which a 60mph speed limit in place. Approximately 700m from its southern end Park Road becomes semi-rural in nature with a number of residential accesses and the speed limit reduces to 30mph. The Queen Elizabeth Foundation (QEF) Brain Injury Centre is located on Park Road within this 30mph speed limit. There is a footway in place on the eastern side of Park Road from outside the QEF Brain Injury Centre travelling northwards to its northern end at the junction with Banstead High Street. The northern section of Park Road from Parkside nursing home to its junction with Banstead High Street is residential in nature with properties and footways on both sides as you enter Banstead village.

A review of the personal injury collisions recorded by Surrey Police, shows that there has been no reported collisions on Park Road, Banstead from December 2014 to the end of November 2017 (the latest 3 year period for which data is available).

1. A scheme to reduce the existing 60mph speed limit on Park Road has already been added to the Integrated Transport Scheme list for possible future funding. However, a speed survey needs to be carried out on this section of Park Road to establish whether or not the existing mean speeds would comply with Surrey County Council's "Setting Local Speed Limits" policy for a reduction in the speed limit by signs alone. Surrey County Council does not hold any speed data for this section of Park Road. In December

2017 Reigate and Banstead Local Committee allocated £1,000 of the 2018/19 revenue budget to fund speed surveys. The 60mph section of Park Road has been added to the list of roads to be assessed in Reigate and Banstead. Once the location of the survey site has been identified and agreed with Surrey Police, the survey will be ordered.

The results of the speed survey 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 signs alone reduction in the speed limit then a scheme to reduce the speed limit along the 60mph section of Park Road will remain on the Integrated Transport Scheme list for future funding.

2. The petitioners have requested the introduction of a 20mph speed limit for 300m either side of the Queen Elizabeth Foundation (QEF). Surrey County Council does not hold any speed data for the 30mph section of Park Road, Banstead. Therefore the section of Park Road, 300m either side of the QEF Brain Injury Centre, will be added to the list of roads to be assessed, using automatic traffic count equipment over a continuous 7 day period to comply with Surrey's Speed Limit Policy. It should be noted that the number of locations on the list exceed the current funding identified in 2017/18 for surveys, therefore it is not possible at this time to say when a survey will be carried out. However as soon as funding becomes available, and the location for the survey site has been identified and agreed with Surrey Police, the surveys will be ordered.

Once the survey has been completed the results will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member. A decision can be taken as to whether this speed limit reduction can be added to the list of schemes for consideration for future Local Committee funding if measured mean speeds comply with Surrey's "Setting Local Speed Limits" Policy.

3. The petitioners have requested that signage in the road be refreshed and increased in order to encourage drivers to reduce their speed. Park Road, Banstead is classed as a restricted road under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984. The system of street lighting in the road indicates to drivers that the speed limit is 30mph. Surrey, as highway authority, has to comply with national regulations covering the signing of speed limits. For a restricted road such as Park Road, Banstead the 30mph speed limit can only be signed at its terminal points and it is not permitted to use repeater signs or 30mph road markings.

There are already a number of signs on Park Road, Banstead to warn drivers of the following;

- Yellow backed "pedestrians in road"/"no footway" signs
- Horse warning signs
- Wild animals warning signs
- Disabled people crossing warning signs (2 no. on both approaches to the QEF)
- SLOW markings at various locations

These signs and road markings have been inspected and are in acceptable

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condition. Surrey County Council is only permitted to install signs on the public highway if they are prescribed by the Traffic Signs Regulations and General Directions 2016. There are no additional signs within the regulations that can be used to encourage drivers to reduce their speed.

4. The petitioners have requested that electronic number plate recognition signs be installed in Park Road. Electronic number plate recognition technology can be incorporated into vehicle activated signs (VAS) to display the vehicle number plate, VAS are used in certain locations in Surrey where there is a recognised problem with vehicles exceeding the speed limit. VAS that display a speed limit roundel above the words SLOW DOWN are used in Surrey. Signs that use electronic number plate recognition to display the vehicle number plate and speed that the vehicle is travelling are not used in Surrey. The experience of other Local Authorities has been that some drivers deliberately drive fast at the signs to make the displayed speed as high as possible.

There is very limited funding available for any speed reducing measures, including for the installation of VAS, at this time. The County Council follows an evidence based approach to such requests, to ensure that the limited funding available is used on roads where it is most needed. The results of the speed survey used for the 20mph speed limit request will also be used, together with the collision record, to inform the decision for a VAS. This decision will be taken by the Local Committee Chairman, Vice-Chairman and divisional Member, in consultation with the Area Highway Manager. If it is decided to provide a VAS in Park Road then this will VAS in Park Road be added to the Integrated Transport Scheme list for consideration for future funding.

5. The petitioners have requested that Park Road is designated as being "Unsuitable for HGVs". "Unsuitable for HGVs" signs are advisory only, and not legally enforceable. There is also a need for deliveries to QEF and other properties along Park Road. Therefore, these signs would be ineffective at preventing HGV's from using Park Road and if installed could displace HGVs on to neighbouring roads. For these reasons, there are no plans to install "Unsuitable for HGVs" signs in Park Road.
6. The petitioners have requested measures to increase pedestrian safety on those parts of the road with no pavement. There are yellow backed warning signs in Park Road to warn drivers that there is no footway and that pedestrians may therefore be walking along the road. Although it is recognised that pedestrians prefer to have a designated pavement, the collision record for the road does not indicate that there is a safety need for pedestrian improvements. There are many requests for measures of this nature and these need to be prioritised for the limited funding available. Therefore there are no plans to introduce any measures to improve pedestrian safety along the section of Park Road where there is no pavement.

ITEM 4

<u>RECOMMENDATION</u>
The Local Committee is asked to: (i) Note the officer's comment

Contact Officer:

Anne-Marie Hannam, Senior Traffic Engineer

Tel: 0300 200 1003
