

**GUILDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL AND
SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**



GUILDFORD JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 12 DECEMBER 2018

SUBJECT: DENZIL ROAD PETITION

**DIVISION/
WARD(S)**

AFFECTED: GUILDFORD SOUTH WEST, FRIARY & ST NICOLAS

PETITION DETAILS:

I am writing to request that the enclosed petition be considered at the Joint Committee meeting. The petition requests the installation of a modal filter on Denzil Road in Guildford to prevent cut-through motor traffic.

Some context and the details of the proposal are set out below.

Background

Denzil Road is a residential road near Guildford town centre. Denzil Road, along with neighbouring Ludlow Road / Genyn Road, are frequently used as a cut through by car drivers, particularly when other surrounding roads, such as Guildford Park Road, are congested. Vehicle speeds, are often too high and the level of motor traffic is not suitable for such a narrow residential road. The motor traffic presents a significant danger, particularly for young people. Queuing traffic, particularly at the Southern end of Denzil Road, brings with it poor air quality and health risks.

Over 41 people have so far signed the petition supporting a request to close Denzil Road to through motor traffic (please see the petition report that went to 19 September 2018 Local Committee). Signatures are still being collected. This demonstrates the level of support for the proposal which is set out in more detail below.

The proposal

It is proposed that a modal filter be installed across Denzil Road, at some point on the stretch of Denzil Road between the Genyn Road and Upperton Road junctions (see image B1). The modal filter would stop motor cars passing through the road but would enable cycles to pass.

This would create in effect a 'U' shaped road formed of Ludlow Road, Genyn Road and the northern half of Denzil Road. An 'L' shaped road would also be formed from the Southern end of Denzil Road and Farnham Road. This arrangement would mean that each house is still accessible by car and would allow waste collection and delivery services to operate as normal without the need for difficult manoeuvres and reversing.

Two options for the position of the modal filter are envisaged (see images C1 and C2). No car parking spaces would be lost. It may even be possible to increase the number of spaces (such as outside 24-46 Denzil Road), which would be of additional benefit to residents.

Examples of possible modal filter designs can be found in Annex D. This shows how the modal filter could be combined with other features such as trees, bringing additional benefits.

This represents a low cost way of creating a safe, pleasant, street environment that would make the area covered by Denzil Road, Ludlow Road, Genyn Road and Upperton Road area a safer, more healthy, place. The area would become a cycle and pedestrian-friendly route linking the university to the town centre.

This proposal is well aligned with the principles of the Town Centre Vision and Master Plan.

It is proposed that the committee consider a pilot closure as a first step with a view to making it permanent if the pilot is successful.

Next steps

Having discussed this issue with Councillors Furniss and Goodwin, I understand that such proposals should be brought to the attention of the Joint Committee. I understand that there is a meeting of the Joint Committee on 12 December 2018. I would be very grateful if you could add this item to the agenda for that meeting.

Your sincerely,

Max Jamieson

For Annexes and photos please refer to the petition report that went to 19 September 2018 Local Committee.

RESPONSE:

A SCC officer and the police visited Denzil Road and the surrounding roads to investigate the requests to install a modal filter. While on site it was observed that the number of vehicles that used Denzil Road was not high, although Farnham Road and Guildford Park Road were congested, due to construction of the second road table in Bridge Street.

It was agreed that volume surveys and possibly modelling in Denzil Road and the surrounding roads should be carried out to ascertain the full extent of the problem. After analysing the data, a consultation with the local residents and the interested parties should also be carried out. As a result, a request for a feasibility study has been placed on the Guildford running list.

The running list, with the 2019/20 requests including the Denzil Road feasibility study, was taken to the Infrastructure Delivery and Transportation Working (IDTW) group in November.

Since the budget for the next financial year is currently not known, it was decided by the IDTW members to revisit the running list next year once the budget is known. The approved proposed schemes on the running list will then be presented in a formal report and taken forward to a Guildford Joint Committee to secure funding. Only the schemes that are approved and funded by the Joint Committee will be progressed.

The Denzil Road feasibility study will be included in the 2019/20 schemes, subject to the IDTW group approval.

RECOMMENDATION

The Joint Committee is asked to:

- (i) *Note the officer's comment.*

Contact Officer: Frank Apicella, Area Highways Manager, Tel: 03456 009 009

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