

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL  
SPELTHORNE BOROUGH COUNCIL**



**SURREY**

**JOINT COMMITTEE (SPELTHORNE)**

**DATE: 10 December 2018  
SUBJECT: PETITION – Chertsey Road**

**DIVISION: Sunbury Common and Ashford Common**

**PETITION DETAILS:**

**Implement speed reduction measures along the entire length of Chertsey Road**

The Spelthorne Joint Committee received a petition from Mr David Fudge which contained 32 signatures and was concerned about the speed of traffic going through Chertsey Road in Ashford.

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to Implement speed reduction measures along the entire length of Chertsey Road to ensure the safety of all pedestrians but especially all children walking to school with their families, and to emulate the speed reduction measures already in place for the surrounding roads.

Chertsey Road in Ashford runs from Tesco Express on the Staines Road West to the BP Head Office. In the middle of this stretch of road is a large Primary School with over 500 pupils including a nursery, Children's Centre and Special Education Needs unit. The alternative route for traffic to the school or BP would be via Feltham Hill Road or Chertsey Road from the north via Groveley Road, and both these roads have speed bumps and through BP the speed limit is 20mph. The current speed limit along Chertsey Road is 30mph with no speed bumps and traffic heading towards the school comes from Staines Road West which has a speed limit of 40mph. Chertsey Road is a residential road with the majority of homes having their own drives so cars are regularly pulling out/reversing into the road. The council are trying to encourage more families to walk to school for health benefits and for this objective to success, children need a safe environment to do so.

**OFFICER COMMENT:**

Chertsey Road provides a link between Staines Road West (A308) and Cadbury Road (A244). Approximately at its midpoint is a junction with Feltham Hill Road, which provides access for Meadhurst Primary School. Also accessed nearby are

the nursery and children's centres for which Chertsey Road and Feltham Hill Road are key routes.

Surrey Highways, in partnership with Surrey Police, identifies locations with a poor safety record by analysing collision data and trends. Locations of community concern are also considered, when residents, elected members or community surveys have highlighted locations where it is thought that there may be a traffic problem. Assessment potentially leads to the development of measures such as physical changes, enforcement, or educational campaigns. Residents may raise concerns relating to driver behaviour to Surrey Police as the sole enforcement authority.

The council does currently receive a small amount of funding to be used specifically to reduce road casualties. These resources are focussed on sites where there are patterns of casualties that could potentially be addressed through engineering interventions. We are obliged to prioritise those sites with the greatest frequency of casualties, ahead of those sites with a lesser frequency of casualties.

Available collision data for the most recent three year period has been reviewed for Chertsey Road in question. There have been no collisions resulting in personal injury where speed was recorded as a contributory factor. However, there was one collision, in January 2017, where a child pedestrian sustained injury (categorised as 'slight' injury).

As such, there is currently no provision within the road safety programme for measures on Chertsey Road, when compared with other locations.

As well as schemes to specifically address problems evidenced by a history of injuries, Surrey County Council does introduce other local highways improvement schemes. For example, these may be to improve traffic flow, relieve congestion, provide facilities such as pedestrian crossings, or to address locations where residents have highlighted areas of concern. Schemes may also aim to improve the quality of life and general environment for residents, as well as address safety concerns. These are the types of schemes promoted via Spelthorne Joint Committee. The committee has recognised the need for a safer environment in the vicinity of the school. As such, funding was allocated to develop proposals for a new zebra crossing in Feltham Hill Road, close to the roundabout junction with Chertsey Road. Construction is anticipated in 2019, subject to securing of funding.

Should committee be minded to prioritise Chertsey Road for further measures, the first step would be to undertake a feasibility study to establish the existing conditions and behaviours to enable the development of suitable measures. These may include physical measures such as traffic calming, building out of kerbs, or change of priority. Assessment would consider the likely impacts on local residents as well as on the road network.

Any vertical traffic calming or changes to permitted vehicle movements require statutory consultation and it should be noted that features such as humps, cushions or tables are not always universally popular, with particular concerns being related to noise and vibration. There is also the issue of potential re-routing of traffic to less appropriate roads. It is also worth noting that any measures to alter road layouts are likely to be prohibitively expensive based on likely committee budgets, although external funding may be an option.

<b><u>RECOMMENDATION</u></b>
<p>The Joint Committee is asked to decide: <i>(a) to allocate funding for a feasibility study, (b) to place this suggestion on the prioritisation list for future consideration, or (c) to do nothing at this stage.</i></p>

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