

WEST PARK ROAD (NOBLE PARK) SPEED LIMIT CONSULTATION UPDATE

SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

There are few road markings within the Noble Park housing estate, and no speed limit terminal signs distinguishing between the 40mph limit on Horton Lane and 30mph limit on West Park Road.

Surrey County Council's Local Committee for Epsom and Ewell agreed that a study should be undertaken to identify potential measures to highlight safety issues and improve driver awareness of potential hazards. This study was reported to Committee at its meeting in March 2018, where it was recommended to finalise the detailed design for a new speed limit change, advertise the necessary Legal Orders, and if there are no significant objections to make the necessary Legal Orders and arrange for the scheme to be implemented. Following discussions with the divisional member, it was agreed to consult on proposals ahead of the statutory consultation.

Therefore public consultation has been carried out on the proposals. The consultation also invited any other comments to be raised.

This report presents the results of the public consultation. The Local Committee is asked to note the results of the consultation and the recommendations made. The Local Committee is also asked to note the next steps, in that the scheme will progress to detailed design and construction, informed by the public consultation that is the subject of this report.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Surrey County Council has been working to develop proposals for road safety improvements in and around the residential estate of Noble Park. Measures are needed to inform drivers of the speed limit and to improve driver awareness of potential hazards.
- 1.2 West Park Road is the main road linking the Horton Lane roundabout to the rest of the Noble Park housing estate. The site was formally the location for the West Park Hospital until 2011, but now holds over 200 homes and working NHS buildings within the grounds. West Park Road and surrounding roads are on a bus route, and there are also ambulances using the road.
- 1.3 There are few road markings when entering the housing estate, and no speed limit terminal signs distinguishing between the 40mph limit on Horton Lane and 30mph limit on West Park Road.
- 1.4 A location plan is attached as **Appendix 1**.
- 1.5 Surrey Highways undertook feasibility studies, including site visits and liaison with county and borough members and Surrey Police's Road Safety and Traffic Management Team. This led to an outline design for proposed improvements to:
 - Install centre line road makings on West Park Road. Install junction markings at the junctions with Richmond Crescent and West Park Road to create a more formal stopping point for vehicles entering West Park Road.

- Install bend warning signs to warn drivers of the upcoming hazard of the bends either end along West Park Road.
 - Provide a village gateway to make drivers aware of the speed limit change from 40mph on Horton Lane and 30mph limit on West Park Road. The Gateway will consist of speed limit terminal signs, carriageway roundels and red high friction surfacing.
- 1.6 A consultation letter and a drawing of the proposed measures were delivered in September 2018 to residents and businesses in the immediate area. Additional feedback was invited.
- 1.7 Copies of the consultation drawing and letter are attached as **Appendices 2 and 3** respectively. A plan showing the consultation area and details of additional consultees are attached as **Appendix 4**.
- 1.8 This report presents the results of the public consultation.

2. ANALYSIS:

Responses

- 2.1 Letters, the consultation drawing and questionnaire were delivered to residents and business addresses in the area shown in **Appendix 4**. This included properties in Dillon Close, Farmside Place, Glanville Way, Horton Lane, Longland Place, Lulworth Place, Miller Place, Osborne Way, Peacock Close, Richmond Crescent, Sherwood Way and West Park Road. In total, the consultation material was sent by post to 482 addresses.

There was a total of 18 responses received.

Summary of responses and feedback

- 2.2 The view expressed by respondents is that they support proposed improvement measures in the area.
- 2.3 The comments received related to:
- Request for 20mph limit throughout the estate
 - Request for additional warning for the allotments access, pedestrians crossing and children crossing/playing
 - Request for additional warnings for drivers leaving the estate
 - Request for additional measures throughout the estate – traffic calming, junction markings, parking controls around junctions and near the entrance gateway
 - Request for de-cluttering of signs
 - Request for changes to the pedestrian crossing point near the entrance to Noble Park
 - Request for weight and loading restrictions
 - Comments relating to speeding and carelessness by drivers

- Comments that measures would detract from the residential nature of the estate
- 2.4 Consideration of a 20mph speed limit, physical traffic calming, weight or loading restrictions and crossing points are not part of the proposals. However, the proposed scheme does not preclude further investigation at a later date.
- 2.5 Further review of signs and markings can be considered as part of the detailed design of the proposed scheme.
- 2.6 Parking controls may be considered as part of the scheduled Epsom Parking Reviews, which are promoted via the local committee.
- 2.7 Concerns regarding speeding and other driver behaviour causing problems may be raised to Surrey Police as the enforcement authority.

Other consultees

- 2.8 The Borough Councillor for Stamford Ward, representing the Residents Associations of Epsom and Ewell responded on behalf of the Board of Directors of West Park CDT Ltd, the residents body, which manages the running of the public areas of the estate and individual residents who expressed a view on the matter.
- 2.9 Surrey Police's Road Safety and Traffic Management Team expressed support for the proposals.

3. OPTIONS:

- 3.1 A number of options, together with Surrey Highways comments, are given below, based on the results of the consultation.
- 3.2 **Option 1:** Proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation.

Comment: There is support for the proposals presented for public consultation. It is recommended that this option be developed, with consideration of the feedback received, for the reasons outlined in this report. The proposed option would provide benefits for all residents and road users accessing Noble Park on West Park Road.

- 3.3 **Option 2:** Do not proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures or further investigation and assessment, i.e. 'do nothing'.

Comment: The existing road layout would remain.

- 3.4 As there is support for the proposals presented for public consultation, Option 1 as outlined above (para 3.2) will be progressed, i.e. **proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation**. The comments and feedback from the public consultation will be considered in the detailed design of the scheme. Further consultation will also be undertaken with stakeholders including Surrey Police.

4. CONCLUSION:

- 4.1 There are few road markings when entering the housing estate, and no speed limit terminal signs distinguishing between the 40mph limit on Horton Lane and 30mph limit on West Park Road.
- 4.2 Public consultation has been carried out on proposals for highway improvement measures. There is support for the proposals presented for public consultation.
- 4.3 The proposals presented for public consultation will be progressed, thus proceeding with detailed design and implementation of measures. The comments and feedback from the public consultation will be considered in the detailed design of the scheme.