

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



SURREY

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 11 March 2019

SUBJECT: PETITION – Hersham Bypass

DIVISION: Hersham

PETITION DETAILS:**Install a Pedestrian Crossing on the Hersham Bypass A244**

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to install a Pedestrian Crossing on the Hersham Bypass A244.

This would allow the safe crossing for all residents. We believe the crossing should be mid way down the bypass, near where the two bus stops are opposite each other (where riverside road joins the bypass, Southdown road end) this allowing elderly residents and children especially, to cross the bypass safely. Hersham Bypass is also a busy thoroughfare for rush-hour commuter traffic, learner drivers and bus routes.

2892 signatures. Lead petitioner Katie Dando

OFFICER COMMENT:

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.

The council does currently receive a small amount of funding to be used specifically to reduce road casualties. These resources are focused on sites where there are patterns of casualties that could potentially be addressed through engineering interventions. Surrey Police records details on road collisions where personal injury has resulted. This data is shared with Surrey County Council. Data is publicly available at

www.crashmap.co.uk

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Available data shows that there has been one incident on this section of road in the last five years, where a pedestrian injury has been sustained. Tragically this did result in a fatality.

Unfortunately current funding and prioritisation does not allow all requests for improvements to be addressed. With regards to this location, there is currently no provision within the road safety programme for measures on the A244.

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 Elmbridge Local Committee.

Should committee be minded to prioritise this section of the A244 for 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 would be likely to include consideration of suitable types of crossing, e.g. zebra, puffin. Assessment would consider the likely impacts on local residents as well as on the road network. It would require surveys to determine vehicle speeds as well as pedestrian demand and desire lines which would include for access to the bus stops. The number of pedestrians likely to regularly use a facility is a key consideration in determining a viable location and when prioritising highway schemes.

In this instance a staggered crossing is likely to be a potential option, with a central waiting area for crossing each carriageway separately. This would include adjustment of the central raised area as well as the carriageway lanes and cycle lanes in order to provide adequate space. It is likely that, in order to accommodate a central area, at least one traffic lane would need to be removed.

Based on similar schemes, a signalised crossing is likely to cost in the region of £175k to £250k.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to:

Decide (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.

Contact Officer:

Nick Healey, Area Highway Manager (NE)

Tel: 0300 200 1003