

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (ELMBRIDGE)

DATE: 11TH MARCH 2019

LEAD OFFICER: NICK HEALEY, AREA TEAM MANAGER

**SUBJECT: LONG DITTON SCHOOLS
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

RESULTS OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION

DIVISION: THE DITTONS



SUMMARY OF ISSUE:

The Long Ditton Schools Safety Improvements was prompted by a petition received by Committee in November 2012. In February 2013 Committee agreed to fund a feasibility study, which in turn led to successful bids for CIL funding from Elmbridge Borough Council. A number of improvements have now been implemented through an interactive consultation, design, and implementation process, which has been guided throughout by Division and Ward Members. This report presents the results of public consultation on a proposed new Zebra Crossing in Sugden Road. The Local Committee is asked to note the results of the consultation and approve the construction of the proposed new Zebra Crossing. Subject to Committee's approval, officers will complete the detailed design for this scheme and make arrangements for construction.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Local Committee (Elmbridge) is asked to:

- (i) Note the results of the public consultation as set out in this report, particularly that there is overwhelming level of support for the proposals presented for public consultation;
- (ii) Approve the construction of a new Zebra Crossing in Sugden Road, between Rectory Lane and Ewell Road.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

To inform the Local Committee of the results of the public consultation and facilitate construction of the scheme.

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:

- 1.1 Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School is located on Sugden Road and Ewell Road. Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School is located on Ditton Hill Road. Sugden Road, Ewell Road and Ditton Hill Road are of predominantly residential use.
- 1.2 A location plan is attached as **Annex 1**.
- 1.3 Sugden Road/Ewell Road and Ditton Hill Road are linked by Fleece Road with mini-roundabouts to the east and west. Fleece Road forms part of an east-west route running parallel to the railway line, including Sugden Road and linking west to Manor Road North. There is a shopping parade with marked parking bays on the south side of Fleece Road. There are footways on each side of Sugden Road, Ewell Road, Fleece Road and Ditton Hill Road.
- 1.4 At Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School on Sugden Road, close to the school access and bus stops, there is an existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing with a raised table and tactile paving. There is a further uncontrolled pedestrian crossing with a raised table, central refuge and tactile paving close to the roundabout junction with Fleece Road/Ewell Road. On Ewell Road there is a similar crossing point. See **Photos 1, 2 and 3** below.



Photo 1
Existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on Sugden Road



Photo 2
Existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on Sugden Road



Photo 3
Existing uncontrolled pedestrian crossing on Ewell Road

- 1.5 At Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School on Ditton Hill Road, there is an existing zebra crossing with a raised table and tactile paving, which was constructed as part of the Long Ditton Schools project. See **Photo 4** below.



Photo 4
Existing zebra crossing on Ditton Hill Road

- 1.6 There are additional uncontrolled pedestrian crossings in the immediate area:
- Rectory Lane, at its junction with Sugden Road – dropped kerbs, tactile paving and central refuge island at the junction mouth
 - Mini-roundabout junction of Sugden Road, Ewell Road and Fleece Road – tactile paving and raised table to the west of the roundabout; dropped kerbs to the east of the roundabout
 - Ditton Hill Road, at its junction with Kings Road – dropped kerbs and tactile paving at the junction mouth
- 1.7 The zebra crossing on Ditton Hill Road was installed in 2018 as part of the Long Ditton Schools project, following public consultation. The consultation included proposals for a zebra crossing on Sugden Road to the west of Rectory Lane, but the feedback showed that an alternative location would be preferred. The results of the public consultation were reported to Elmbridge Local Committee in February 2017.
- 1.8 The current layout for Sugden Road can lead to potential difficulty for pedestrians crossing near and between the schools. This is partially due to the traffic flows and also the traffic speeds. Improved facilities can promote and encourage sustainable travel methods as well as manage traffic flow and driver behaviour.
- 1.9 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, comprising:
- A zebra crossing on Sugden Road near Long Ditton St Mary’s School, on the existing raised table between the roundabout junction with Fleece Road/Ewell Road and the junction with Rectory Lane.

- 1.10 A consultation letter and a drawing of the proposed measures were delivered in summer 2018 to residents and businesses in the immediate area. A questionnaire was also included to invite feedback.
- 1.11 Elmbridge Borough Councillors for the area and the Long Ditton Residents' Association were also consulted.
- 1.12 Copies of the consultation drawing and letter plus questionnaire are attached as **Annexes 2 and 3** respectively. A plan showing the consultation area is attached as **Annex 4**.
- 1.13 This report presents the results of this latest 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 Annex 4. This included properties in Sugden Road, Ditton Hill Road, Fleece Road, Ewell Road, Betts Way, Church Road, Highfield Close, Kings Road, Rectory Close, Rectory Lane and Scott Farm Close. In total, the consultation material was sent by post to 510 addresses.
- 2.2 There was a total of 156 responses received from residents and businesses (a response rate of 31%), plus a response from Surrey Police.

Summary of responses

- 2.3 The view expressed by respondents is that they support the proposed improvement measures (94%).
- 2.4 Surrey Police 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 A:** Proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation.

Comment: There is strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation.

- 3.3 **Option B:** 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 strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation, it is recommended that Option A be progressed, i.e. **proceed with detailed design and implementation of measures, based on the proposals presented for public consultation.**

4. CONSULTATIONS:

4.1 Proposals to provide improvements at, and in the vicinity of, Long Ditton St Mary's School and Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School have been the subject of public consultation, the results of which are presented in this report.

5. FINANCIAL AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Elmbridge Borough Council has awarded CIL funding for this project.

6. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS:

6.1 It is an objective of Surrey Highways to treat all users of the public highway equally and with understanding.

7. LOCALISM:

7.1 The Highway Service is mindful of the localism agenda and engages with the local community as appropriate before proceeding with the construction of any highway scheme.

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Area assessed:	Direct Implications:
Crime and Disorder	Set out below
Sustainability (including Climate Change and Carbon Emissions)	Set out below
Corporate Parenting/Looked After Children	No significant implications arising from this report
Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults	No significant implications arising from this report
Public Health	No significant implications arising from this report

8.1 Crime and Disorder implications

A well-managed highway network can contribute to reduction in crime and disorder.

8.2 Sustainability implications

The use of sustainable materials and the recycling of materials is carried out wherever possible and appropriate.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 9.1 Concerns have been raised by residents and road users regarding the existing highway conditions in Long Ditton, in the vicinity of Long Ditton St Mary's Junior School and Long Ditton Infant and Nursery School.
- 9.2 Public consultation has been carried out on proposals to amend the road layout to improve facilities for pedestrians. There is strong support for the proposals presented for public consultation.
- 9.3 The Local Committee is asked to note the results of the public consultation as set out in this report.
- 9.4 It is recommended that the proposals presented for public consultation be progressed, thus proceeding with detailed design and implementation of a new Zebra Crossing in Sugden Road, between Rectory Lane and Ewell Road.

10. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

- 10.1 Subject to Committee approval the detailed design of the scheme will be finalised, leading to implementation.
- 10.2 It is anticipated that implementation will be in 2019.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

As detailed in the report

Annexes:

- Annex 1: Location plan
- Annex 2: Plan of proposals
- Annex 3: Consultation letter and questionnaire
- Annex 4: Consultation delivery area

Sources/background papers:

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| November 2012 | Long Ditton Schools petition received by Committee |
| February 2013 | Petition response presented to Committee |
| February 2014 | Long Ditton Schools feasibility report presented to Committee |
| February 2015 | Ewell Road petition received by Committee |
| February 2017 | Long Ditton Schools consultation results reported to Committee |
| September 2018 | Highways Update Item report to the Local Committee – referring to second CIL bid for the Long Ditton Schools scheme |

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