

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)****DATE: 3 JUNE 2019****SUBJECT: PETITION TO INTRODUCE 20 MPH SPEED RESTRICTIONS IN ROUNDWOOD WAY, BANSTEAD****DIVISION: NORK AND TATTENHAMS****PETITION DETAILS:**

Roundwood Way is used by many Banstead road users as a cut through. It is a road that curves and is on a hill so many road users come round the top bend and pick up speed going down the hill. There have been a range of accidents and plenty more near misses recently and I feel that it is only a matter of time before something tragic happens. Roundwood Way is also the home of Warren Mead Junior School and I am therefore amazed that there is not a reduced speed restriction in place all the way down the road. There are children on foot and on scooters plus plenty of extra cars at school drop off and pick up times creating lots of added hazards. Something needs to change before it is too late.

RESPONSE:

Roundwood Way is a residential road in Nork that links Warren Road with Nork Way. Warren Mead Junior School is accessed from Roundwood Way. The speed limit on Roundwood Way is 30mph and the Police are responsible for enforcing this limit.

A review has been carried out of reported personal injury collisions in Roundwood Way between December 2015 and November 2018 (the latest period for which data is available). During this period there have been 2 collisions resulting in slight injuries, one of these collisions involved an elderly pedestrian and was at the junction of Roundwood Way and Nork Way.

The petitioners are requesting a reduction in the speed limit to 20mph as there is a school on the road. It is acknowledged that Warren Mead Junior School is accessed from Roundwood Way, but it does not follow that the speed limit on that road should be 20mph. The majority of primary schools in Surrey are on roads with a speed limit of 30mph.

Surrey County Council has an approved Speed Limit Policy which sets out the criteria under which a reduction in speed limit by signs alone would be considered. The policy requires that the length of road over which a speed limit change would be considered should be at least 600m in length. This is to ensure against too many speed limit changes that could be confusing to the motorist along a length of road. The suggestion being put forward by the petitioners would meet this criterion.

The policy also requires existing speeds to be measured over a 7 day continuous period using automatic survey equipment. If automatic surveys of vehicle speeds are not possible, then a sample of speeds will be undertaken using a hand held speed measuring device at different times of the day, to ensure the sample is representative. The measured existing mean speeds are then compared to a threshold set out in the policy and if the recorded mean speeds are below the threshold, then the council will

consider reducing the speed limit. For a reduction from 30mph to 20mph, the threshold mean speed is set at 24mph.

There is no recent speed survey data available for Roundwood Way. Reigate & Banstead Local Committee have no revenue budget to fund an automatic survey to record vehicle speeds for a 7 day continuous period, during this financial year. Therefore officers will arrange for sample speeds to be taken on Roundwood Way using a hand held measuring device. It should be noted that speed surveys should not be carried out if the results would be affected by other factors such as adverse weather conditions or school holidays. The results of the speed survey will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman, and the divisional member.

The petitioner is expressing concern about the safety of children using Roundwood Way when going to and from the school. Surrey County Council have a Road Safety Outside Schools policy, which sets out how concerns about safety outside schools are investigated. One of the most frequently expressed road safety concerns is that of the safety of children outside schools. At school drop off and pick up times the roads in the immediate vicinity of schools are especially busy and there is usually a high level of vehicle, pedestrian, and cyclist activity. This causes slower vehicle speeds and congestion and very often leads to frustration from residents and motorists at the apparent chaos caused by parents and children arriving or leaving the school. The purpose of Road Safety Outside Schools policy is to set out the process that will be used by Surrey County Council for investigating and responding to concerns about road safety outside schools. The aim of the policy is to reduce the risk of collisions, and to make the road feel safer in order to improve the attractiveness of walking and cycling to and from schools.

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee is asked to note:

- i) The officers comment
- ii) That Surrey County Council's Safer Travel Team will carry out a road safety assessment as set out in the policy in the Autumn Term of 2019. The results of the assessment will be reported to the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman and the divisional Member.

Contact Officer:

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