

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)**SURREY****DATE: 4 SEPTEMBER 2019****SUBJECT: A246 GUILDFORD ROAD, BOOKHAM – PEDESTRIAN CROSSING BETWEEN GROVESIDE AND HAWKWOOD RISE.****DIVISION: BOOKHAM & FETCHAM WEST****PETITION DETAILS:****Mole Valley Local Committee Petition (4 Sept) Summary:**

Pedestrians, cyclists and particularly secondary school students cross Guildford Rd here to get to and from school and/or to other parts of Bookham including buses and the station. But there is no safe crossing point on the bend. Many vehicles are travelling much faster than the 30mph speed limit as it is close to the 40mph stretch between Great and Little Bookham, which is itself often exceeded. There are also many vehicles turning right out of both side roads. The nearest safe crossing point between Brodrick Grove and Griffin Way is too far away.

RESPONSE:

The A246 Guildford Road is a main A-Class road that connects Leatherhead in the east to Guildford in the west. The A246 Guildford Road runs through Bookham and the section between the junctions of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise is street lit and within the existing 30mph speed limit.

It is acknowledged that there is a slight bend on the A246 Guildford Road in Bookham between the junctions of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise, however this bend does not restrict the visibility of approaching vehicles or for pedestrians crossing the A246 Guildford Road at this point.

The existing 30mph speed limit on the A245 Guildford Road starts approximately 200m west of the junction with Groveside. The existing 30mph terminal signs are yellow backed, lit and clearly visible. There is also a yellow backed "School" warning sign and junction ahead warning sign on the approach to the junction with Groveside. The existing push button pedestrian crossing is located approximately 200m east of the junction with Groveside, next to the junctions with Brodrick Grove and Griffin Way.

A review has been carried out of the personal injury collisions that have occurred between the junctions of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise during the most recent 3 year period for which data is available (between 01/04/16 and 31/03/19). During this period there has been 2 collisions resulting in slight personal injury, both of which happened at the junction with Hawkwood Rise, neither collision involved pedestrians.

When designing a pedestrian crossing point a number of aspects need to be considered. These include visibility, proximity of side roads, existing bus stops, vehicle accesses to private properties, carriageway width and available footway width. For example when considering a pedestrian refuge island, best practice is that an island 2m wide is provided so that there is sufficient width for pushchair and mobility scooter users, and sufficient carriageway width remains for large vehicles.

It is not immediately apparent where an additional pedestrian crossing could be provided on the A246 Guildford Road, between the junctions of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise. Therefore it would be necessary to carry out a feasibility design to see whether it would be technically possible to provide a pedestrian crossing, and what type of crossing this could be. Initial design work to establish the feasibility of a proposed crossing on the A246 Guildford Road, between the junction of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise has been added to the Integrated Transport Schemes List for consideration for future funding.

In 2012 the Mole Valley Cycling Forum assessed the school approaches to Howards of Effingham School for cyclists, including the A246 Guildford Road. As part of this assessment the Mole Valley Cycling Forum suggested that improvements could include an off-road cycle route via Groveside from residential roads in South Bookham and at the change of the speed limit to upgrade the footpath on both sides of the A246 and add a cycle friendly refuge. These improvements could be considered alongside any scheme for a pedestrian crossing.

There are many more requests for schemes than there is funding available. Therefore it can take a considerable length of time for feasibility design work of this nature to be prioritised. It should also be noted that there is also no available funding identified for the construction of a crossing at this location at this time. The cost of the construction of a crossing could be considerably more than the total annual budget available to the Mole Valley Local Committee for such schemes in the Mole Valley area.

Officers could also work with the divisional Member and Bookham Residents Association to explore whether the Residents Association are in support of this request. If supported, then the Residents Association could support any work to assess the feasibility of this request, for example funding a feasibility study or identifying match funding.

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee is asked to note:

- i. The petition for a pedestrian crossing to be provided on the A246 Guildford Road between the junctions of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise.
- ii. That Initial design work to establish the feasibility of a proposed crossing on the A246 Guildford Road, between the junction of Groveside and Hawkwood Rise has been added to the Integrated Transport Schemes List for consideration for future funding.
- iii. That officers could work with the divisional Member and Bookham Residents Association to explore whether the Residents Association are in support of this request. If supported, then the Residents Association could support any work to assess the feasibility of this request, for example funding a feasibility study or identifying match funding.

Contact Officer:

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