

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)

DATE: 2 DECEMBER 2019

**SUBJECT: PETITION TO: PROVIDE FOR A CROSSING THAT
PRIORITISES PEDESTRIANS AND BICYCLES OVER TRAFFIC
AT THE JUNCTION OF WHEATFIELD WAY AND CYCLE
ROUTE 21**

DIVISION: HORLEY EAST

PETITION DETAILS:

Every day many dozens of children cross Wheatfield Way, Horley going to and from school and nurseries. Children from The Acres going to Oakwood Secondary and Langshott Primary schools and children from Smallfield Road and the Langshott estate going to the Acres school make good use of the Route 21 cycle and footpath to avoid walking near main roads. At one point, this path crosses Wheatfield Way which is a narrow yet increasingly busy road. This junction is also situated on a bend, reducing sightlines and increasing the risk of an accident further. In addition to children commuting to school, this crossing is also frequently used during the day and evening by dog walkers and by many elderly people from the nearby flats in wheelchairs and scooters. Installing a crossing that would prioritise pedestrians and cycles over traffic would significantly reduce the risk of crossing at this junction and would calm the traffic travelling on Wheatfield Way

RESPONSE:

Wheatfield Way links the roads Langshott Wood in the north with Smallfield Road in the south. It is the main estate road through the Langshott estate and has many residential roads leading from it. It is acknowledged that some drivers use Wheatfield Way as part of a route between Smallfield Road and the A23, which allows them to avoid Horley Town Centre.

The National Cycle Network route 21 runs north to south through the Lanshott estate as an off road segregated footway/cycleway. It crosses Wheatfield Way at an informal crossing point on a raised road table just to the west of the junction with Harvestside.

An investigation has been carried out into the reported personal injury collisions on Wheatfield Way during the period January 2016 and March 2019 (the latest period for which data is available). During this period there has been one collision involving slight personal injury at the junction of Wheatfield Way and Langshott Wood. This collision was between two vehicles and did not involve a pedestrian or a cyclist.

The raised road table acts to slow traffic speeds on Wheatfield Way at the informal crossing. There are signs warning of both the raised road table and cyclists on both approaches to the crossing.

It is accepted that pedestrians and cyclists feel safer when crossing at a formal pedestrian crossing such as a zebra or signalised crossing, than at an informal crossing, as traffic is more likely to stop to allow them to cross the road. It is proposed that a scheme to investigate the provision of a formal crossing of Wheatfield Way be added to the Integrated Transport Schemes list for consideration for future funding. There are currently many more requests for schemes of this nature than there is funding available. Currently no funding has been identified for feasibility design, detailed design or construction of this scheme.

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee is asked to:

- (i) *Note the officer's comment.*
- (ii) *Agree that a proposed scheme for a formal pedestrian crossing where National Cycle Network Route 21 crosses Wheatfield Way be added to the Integrated Transport Scheme List for consideration for future funding.*

Contact Officer:

Philippa Gates, Traffic Engineer
