

# SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



**SURREY**

**LOCAL COMMITTEE (MOLE VALLEY)**

**DATE: 22 JANUARY 2020**

**SUBJECT: PETITION TO: REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE A24 SOUTH, UP THE HILL FROM THE COCKEREL ROUNDABOUT UNTIL PAST THE OLD KUONI SITE, FROM THE CURRENT 50MPH TO A SAFER LOWER SPEED REFLECTING THE RESIDENTIAL AREA**

**DIVISION: DORKING SOUTH AND THE HOLMWOODS**

## **PETITION DETAILS:**

### **Mole Valley Local Committee Petition (22 Jan) Summary:**

Petition to improve road safety for both pedestrians and road users by reducing the speed of traffic that effects the junctions of Deepdene Drive, Deepdene Avenue and South Drive as they enter the main A24. There have been a number of incidents where collisions have occurred between cars both entering and exiting the A24 and unfortunately on 23 July a fatal traffic incident took place when a car entered the A24 from South Drive causing a collision with a van travelling up the hill which resulted the death of the car driver. All of these junctions have severe difficulty entering the main A24 safely due to both the volume and speed of the traffic and the poor visibility. We understand that the old Kuoni site may soon become a housing development which will only further increase the problems and danger of traffic entering and exiting the A24.

### **RESPONSE:**

The section of the A24 Deepdene Avenue, between the Cockerel roundabout and the junction with South Drive, provides access to a number of residential properties as well as access to Deepdene Drive, Deepdene Avenue and South Drive which are residential roads. This section of the A24 has a 30mph speed limit in place from the Cockerel roundabout to just south of its junction with Deepdene Drive. However the speed limit changes to 50mph just south of Deepdene Drive, therefore Deepdene Avenue and South Drive, join the section of A24 where the speed limit is currently 50mph.

A review has been carried out of personal injury collisions that have occurred on the A24 Deepdene Avenue, between the Cockerel roundabout to just beyond the junction with South Drive during the most recent 3 year period for which data is available (from 21/11/2016 to 20/11/2019). During this period there has been 3 personal injury collisions, with 2 involving slight injury and the one fatal collision.

The circumstances of the fatal collision will be discussed at a future meeting of the Road Safety Working Group, once the Surrey Police investigation has been completed. This group consists of road safety experts from both Surrey Police and Surrey County Council and engineers from Surrey Highways.

The concerns about road safety at the junctions of Deepdene Drive, Deepdene Avenue and South Drive expressed by the petitioners, together with the collision history at these junctions will be taken into consideration as part of that discussion.

Regretfully, the Local Committee are not in a position to take a decision about any infrastructure changes until the reports and advice are received from the Road Safety Working Group and Surrey Police.

However, previous requests have been received from Mole Valley District Council, following the opening of the Deepdene Trail, to reduce the speed limit on the A24 Deepdene Avenue (between the existing 30mph speed limit and the North Holmwood roundabout). In March 2019 speed surveys were carried out to assess whether or not the existing average mean speeds complied with Surrey County Council's Speed Limit policy for a lower speed limit. One of these surveys was carried out next to street light number 17, which is between the junction with South Drive and the start of the existing 30mph speed limit.

The results of this survey and other surveys carried out along the A24 Deepdene Avenue between the existing 30mph limit and the North Holmwood roundabout show that this whole section of the A24 complies with Surrey County Council's speed limit policy for a 40mph speed limit using signs alone. Therefore a scheme to reduce the existing speed limit from 50mph to 40mph will be added to the Integrated Transport Scheme List for possible future funding and other sources of funding will also be sought.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Local Committee is asked to note the officer's response.

**Contact Officer:**

Anne-Marie Hannam, Senior Traffic Engineer