

## SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

## LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE &amp; BANSTEAD)

DATE: 16 SEPTEMBER 2013

LEAD OFFICER: JOHN LAWLOR, AREA TEAM MANAGER

SUBJECT: PETITION RESPONSE – CARSHALTON ROAD,  
WOODMANSTERNE

DIVISION: BANSTEAD, WOODMANSTERNE AND CHIPSTEAD

**SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

To consider a petition containing 84 signatures requesting that that Surrey County Council put in place a zebra crossing for school children on Carshalton Road, Woodmansterne.

**RESPONSE:****Response of the South East Area Team Manager:**

A kerb build-out with priority give-way was implemented in Carshalton Road in around 2006. The kerb build-out, which is south of the northern arm of Merrymeet, includes dropped kerbs and tactile paving. Crossing at this point provides pedestrians, including parents and children walking to Woodmansterne Primary School, a shorter distance to cross Carshalton Road. It is an informal crossing facility, with no priority being given to pedestrians, who have to wait for a suitable gap in the traffic to cross the road.

One of the most frequently expressed road safety concerns is that of the safety of children walking to school. 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 safety. The county council would like to encourage safe walking and cycling to school, as this is better for the health of children, and reduces congestion and pollution. The perceived danger to children on busy roads on the school journey, especially in the vicinity of a school, can prove to be a barrier to more walking and cycling. This then results in more car journeys and more congestion.

To address these issues, a policy is being developed to set out the process that will be used by Surrey County Council for investigating and responding to concerns about road safety near schools. The aim 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. The policy will recognise that it is important to assess and understand the unique road safety issues at a particular school and to provide a holistic approach to resolving these issues.

It is proposed that the request for a zebra crossing in Carshalton Road will be assessed using the draft policy. This will both help inform the development of the policy and provide a robust assessment of the road safety of children walking to

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Woodmansterne Primary School. The assessment will involve the school, the divisional Member, officers from Surrey Highways, the Community Engagement Team, the Road Safety Team and the Police. The results of the assessment will be presented to the Local Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman and divisional Member in the first instance.

It should be noted that any highway improvement scheme recommended as a result of the assessment will require Local Committee approval and the allocation of funding. The Local Committee (Reigate and Banstead) approve a two-year forward programme of Integrated Transport Schemes and any scheme for Carshalton Road would need to be prioritised against other requests for highway improvements in the borough before approval is sought to add it to the forward programme.

**Contact Officer:**

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