

Cabinet Member for Highways and Community Resilience

25/07/23

**TITLE: Speed Limit on the Sutton-Banstead stretch of A217 ("Mad-Mile") to 40mph with immediate effect**

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to Limit the speed on the stretch of the road that connects Sutton to Banstead on the A217 to 40 mph both ways (Sutton - Banstead and Banstead - Sutton). This stretch has a current limit of 60mph which is often abused.

**Justification:**

The stretch of road from Sutton to Banstead on the A217 (often dubbed the "mad-mile") is a dual carriageway with a speed limit of 60 mph.

The speed limit on this road is often abused, with cars accelerating suddenly as they get to that stretch and some even "racing" against other cars, with no heed to other road users, and in some cases, pedestrians using the footpath along the south road (Sutton to Banstead).

This has recently led to severe accidents on that stretch, most of which could have been avoided if there was an imposed limit of 40 mph.

Also, there is no valid reason why this short stretch of road should allow a limit of 60 mph, when the rest of the A217 stretch has a limit of 40 mph.

This petition is to request the limit be reduced from 60 mph to 40 mph with immediate effect and to impose the limit with working speed-cameras.

It should take vehicles travelling along that stretch about 20 seconds longer to traverse that stretch, which seems justified considering the safety of other road users and pedestrians.

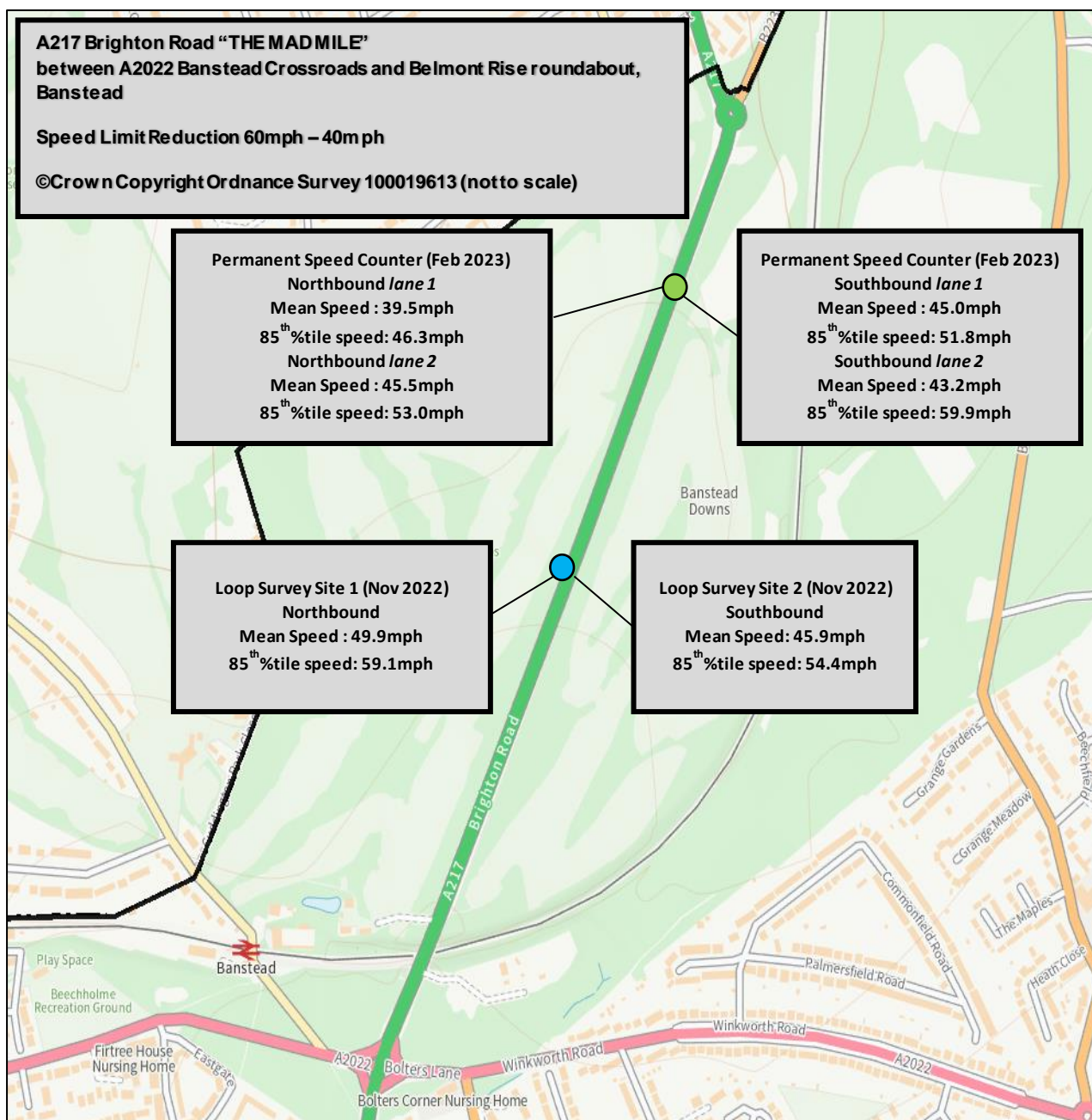
Submitted by: Ram Nandula

**RESPONSE:**

Many thanks for raising your concerns over this stretch of road. Following previous recent representations made by local people and the Local Member Luke Bennett, the County Council Road Safety Team discussed this stretch at the 6 monthly Road Safety Working Group meeting for Reigate and Banstead in April. This meeting is hosted by the Road Safety Engineering team with attendees from the Highways Engagement and Commissioning Team and police road safety specialists.

Officers discussed and reviewed this site with reference to speed survey data that they had obtained (this is shown below for interest), and road casualty data (a summary of which can be seen via [www.crashmap.co.uk](http://www.crashmap.co.uk)). It was noted that there had been a history of collisions including some resulting in serious injury. As well as collisions on the link there are collisions at the junctions at either end. There are two crossing points (including one regularly used by golfers), and a shared pedestrian/cycle path on the east side. It was also noted that the rest of the A217 north and south of this stretch have a 40 mph limit, and that there is a longer term desire to provide signalised crossing facilities for use by the golfers (and other users of the public right of way). Taking all these factors into account it was concluded that the group would support the introduction of a lower 40 mph speed limit on this stretch. This would be preferred compared to a lower 50 mph limit due to the factors described above.

The County Council's Road Safety Engineering Team have already allocated their central road safety budget on other schemes across the county where there has been a history of collisions during the current financial year. Therefore, we would be able to tackle this stretch with our central budget to implement a lower 40 mph speed limit in the following financial year starting in April 2024. Once implemented we will undertake similar speed surveys to check on the success of the scheme and compliance with the new speed limit. This will inform on the need for any additional measures to manage speeds successfully on this stretch.



**Kevin Deanus**  
 Cabinet Member for Highways and Community Resilience  
 25 July 2023