

Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Economic Growth Decisions

24 September 2024

TITLE: ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS IN THE VICINITY OF SANDCROSS SCHOOL**Statement:**

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to implement measures to calm both moving traffic and parking in the vicinity of Sandcross School and improve facilities for walking and wheeling to the school. The aim is to encourage active travel to the school and substantially reduce the ongoing daily concerns about the safety of Sandcross School pupils and their families on the school run.

Justification:

Many pupils at Sandcross School walk or wheel to school. We have started this petition to ask the Council to review and improve the safety of the current road and parking arrangements in the area around Sandcross School.

Submitted by: Louise Cleland
139 Signatures

RESPONSE:

Many thanks for raising your concerns over road safety and the need for improved facilities to support walking and cycling to Sandcross School. Officers are sympathetic to these concerns. Fear over busy traffic and road safety can deter more walking and cycling, leading to more car use, and more congestion and air pollution on school journeys.

Officers from the County Council's Road Safety and Sustainable Travel Team have previously visited this site, have met with the Headteacher and so are aware of the concerns and extent and nature of the problems being experienced. The team also manage the School Crossing Patrol and so visit and observe the site at least annually, and receive feedback from the School Crossing Patrol too.

Officers are aware of a planning application (reference 23/01122) for new housing on land adjacent to the school to the southwest of Sandcross Lane that is designated for new housing within the Reigate & Banstead Local Development Management Plan. The County Council's Transport Development Planning team have set out a range of highway improvements that would be required to be implemented by the developer as a condition of planning consent, should their planning application be approved. These include cycle tracks along Prices Lane, traffic calming and bus stop improvements on Prices Lane and Sandcross Lane, and a zebra crossing on a raised table at the location where the School Crossing Patrol currently operates outside the school. The developers transport assessment containing these proposals as part of their planning application can be viewed via the following link to the Reigate & Banstead Borough Council Planning Portal.

<https://dmdocs.reigate-banstead.gov.uk/w2webparts/Resource/Civica/Handler.ashx/Doc/pagestream?cd=inline&pdf=true&docno=5213892>

Therefore should the planning application be approved by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council, the County Council would welcome the highway improvements proposed as a condition of planning consent that would be funded and implemented by the developer. It

would not be financially prudent for the County Council to invest in the implementation of such measures through its own taxpayer funded budgets (and which would take typically two years to design, consult upon and implement), when there is a reasonable possibility of such measures being funded and implemented by a developer within a similar timescale.

None-the-less suggestions for changes to the parking controls outside the school will be included within the Reigate & Banstead annual parking review. [Reigate and Banstead parking reviews - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/reigate-and-banstead-parking-reviews)

Matt Furniss

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