

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (REIGATE & BANSTEAD)



DATE: 2 NOVEMBER 2020

SUBJECT: LINKFIELD LANE, REDHILL
DIVISION: REDHILL WEST AND MEADVALE

PETITION DETAILS:

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to Install a Zebra Crossing on the Linkfield Ln/Flint Cl corner.

Corner of Linkfield Lane and Flint Close is a place where a lot of parents with children are crossing Linkfield lane when coming to and leaving from St. Joseph's school. From 2022 school is planning to have over 600 students and more people will need to cross Linkfield lane. Linkfield lane has a very intense traffic flow at rush hour time. The main reason why we need a Zebra crossing in that place is that road is bending, and car drivers have very little time to slow down if there is somebody crossing road. Having a zebra crossing on that corner would greatly improve the safety of our children.

RESPONSE:

Linkfield Lane is a C class residential road that links the A25 Station Road at Linkfield Corner with the A23 London Road north of Redhill town centre. As such it carries significant volumes of traffic at peak times as it enables drivers to get between the A23 and the A25 avoiding Redhill town centre.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is located on the north west side of Linkfield Lane just to the east of the junction with Batts Hill. There is an existing zebra crossing on Linkfield Lane on a raised road table just to the west of the junction with Batts Hill. Although this zebra crossing is not on the direct route for pedestrians wanting to cross on the corner of Linkfield Lane at the junction with Flint Close, this zebra crossing is approximately 70m from the school's main entrance.

Surrey County Council has a policy for assessing concerns about road safety outside schools. This policy can be downloaded from the Surrey County Council website at the following web page:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/road-safety/outside-schools>

A road safety assessment in line with the policy took place outside the school in February 2018 following a request from the school and local residents. A site meeting as part of that assessment was attended by officers from Surrey's Road Safety Team, Safer Travel Team the South East Area Highways Team and Surrey Police. At that meeting it was observed that a number of pedestrians were crossing Linkfield Lane at the bend near the junction with North Street and Flint Close. This is a difficult place to cross the road, particularly from the north east side of the road, as visibility is restricted due to the bend.

An initial recommendation in the Road Safety Outside Schools Assessment was that a kerb build out is constructed on the bend to assist pedestrians to cross the road. However since that assessment, design work has been carried out on a similar scheme for a kerb

ITEM 5

build-out and priority give way arrangement near a bend in another road. This scheme was not progressed due to road safety concerns raised by the emergency services about visibility due to the proximity of the build-out to the bend, and the possibility of collisions between emergency service vehicles on blue light calls and oncoming traffic. Similar concerns, due to the existing bend at this location on Linkfield Lane would be raised regarding the construction of a kerb build out. Therefore, we would not progress a scheme to construct a build-out on the bend of Linkfield Lane opposite the junctions with North Street and Flint Close.

The petitioners are requesting that a zebra crossing is provided on the bend in Linkfield Lane. It is unfortunately not possible to construct zebra crossings on bends; this is because pedestrians waiting to cross at the zebra crossing must be visible to oncoming traffic in order for drivers to have sufficient time to anticipate the need for them to stop. Similarly, pedestrians waiting to cross need to be able to have good visibility of approaching traffic in order to assess whether or not drivers are willing to stop to enable them to cross. Drivers also need good visibility of traffic signals for any signal-controlled pedestrian crossing and such visibility would not be achievable on a bend.

Pedestrians going from North Street and Flint Close wish to cross Linkfield Lane somewhere between these roads and the school entrance. However, a formal pedestrian crossing would not be constructed on this section of Linkfield Lane due both to the bend and the proximity of the existing zebra crossing near Batts Hill. If pedestrians do not wish to cross the road close to Flint Close, they are able to walk up to the zebra crossing close to Batts Hill.

It is suggested that a scheme to design and construct an informal crossing on Linkfield Lane between Flint Close and the school entrance, away from the bend is added to the Integrated Transport Scheme list for consideration for future funding.

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Committee is asked to:

- (i) Note the officer's comment.
- (ii) Agree that initial investigation and design work to establish the viability for an informal crossing on Linkfield Lane (between the junctions of Flint Close and the entrance to St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School) be added to the Integrated Transport Scheme List for consideration for future funding.

Contact Officer:

Philippa Gates, Traffic Engineer