

CABINET MEMBER FOR ENVIRONMENT DECISIONS

Tuesday, 14 September 2021

PETITION:- IMPROVE DRAINAGE SYSTEMS IN CHIPSTEAD VALLEY ROAD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to We ask the council to apportion funding to long term engineering related solutions to improve drainage systems in Chipstead Valley Road and the surrounding area (eg. redesign of drainage systems)

In recent years there has been a number of instances where the drainage systems in Chipstead Valley Road have been unable to cope with heavy rainfall.

This has led to flooding of the driveways/homes/gardens of residents and also deposited silt residue from side roads (such as How Lane) onto pavements, posing a hazard to pedestrians including children and parents from Chipstead Valley Primary School.

We ask that the Council review the evidence already presented to local councillors and MPs and apportion funding for interventions to improve the long-term effectiveness of the drainage systems to support the increase in development in the area.

Submitted by: Emma Jewsbury

Signatures: 148

Response:

In June and July 2021 areas of Surrey experienced three major rainstorm events which flooded highway and domestic and commercial properties. Over 100 properties were recorded to have flooded in the living space or were classed as unliveable according to the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs liveability criteria. One of these locations was Chipstead Valley Road, a location with a history of flooding. Surrey County Council has carried out an investigation into the flood incident of Chipstead Valley Road and conducted a survey of the drainage network. Valley Road and the adjoining properties, buildings and school are situated in a location at risk of surface water flooding in all modelled storm events, information [here](#). This means that the location is at risk of flooding irrespective of the existing private and highway drainage networks' condition.

The investigation into the incident which led to this petition response made a series of recommendations which go beyond the remit of Highways and to include recommendations for property owners to take into account that this area is at risk of surface water flooding in all of the modelled storm events. During intense rainfall the capacity of the highway drainage and private drainage networks are likely to be exceeded. To mitigate this and in addition to the work being carried out by Surrey County Council, property owners should consider mechanisms to ensure their properties are resilient to this risk of flooding.

Decision Recommendation:

That Surrey County Council use the existing capital funding prioritisation process for identifying and developing projects to reduce flood risk on the highway.

Further to this recommendation. Surrey County Council has carried out surveys to assess the condition of the highway drainage network and arranged for them to be cleansed and the location has been assessed and recommended for capital investment in the next financial year.

Marisa Heath
Cabinet Member for Environment
14 September 2021