

Cabinet Member for Transport & Infrastructure

7 December 2021

PETITION: SAFE A22 CROSSING POINT FOR CARLTON ROAD/DANEMORE LANE BRIDLEWAY USERS INCLUDING CHILDREN ACCESSING DAILY SCHOOL BUS SERVICES**Statement:**

We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to create a safe crossing-point where the well-used bridleway running along Carlton Road and Danemore Lane crosses the A22, just north of Blindley Heath. The presence of a bridleway and the regular daily use by children, adults, horse-riders and cyclists demonstrate that between Carlton Road and Danemore Lane there is an established A22 crossing-point. However, there are no road markings or street furniture to support those crossing. Crossing the busy, fast A22 at this established crossing-point is patently dangerous. There are bus stops on either side of the road and adults and children risk injury daily to access bus services including school buses. We petition SCC to assess measures including but not limited to - installing a pedestrian-controlled crossing - reducing the A22 speed limit between north of Tilburstow Hill Road and Byers Lane - installing signage to warn motorists of the hazard ahead and to create without delay a safe crossing point.

Justification:

The established crossing-point is on a bend in the A22 with restricted visibility. Traffic is fast, frequent-to-constant and unforgiving. There are frequent road traffic accidents at this location as confirmed in SCC's response dated 13/07/2021 to Tandridge planning application TA/21/0272. There is significant risk of injury and death to those crossing.

School children cross daily to access bespoke school bus services to Oxted School and other bus services to other schools. It is common for school children try to cross and to find themselves stranded in the middle of the A22 without protection.

Carlton Road and Danemore Lane provide access to homes, farms and equestrian properties and horse-riders and local cyclists regularly use the crossing-point as an integral part of the bridleway.

Installing a safe A22 crossing-point between Carlton Road and Danemore Lane would create a safe route to school for local children by enabling them to access bus services without risk. It would promote reduction in car use by enabling an elderly local population to access buses throughout the day. It would promote equestrian access to stables and the bridleway network on both sides of the A22 and reduce risks to cyclists.

Mitigating excessive traffic speeds on the restricted-visibility bend in question would reduce risks to motorists of road traffic accidents with vehicles entering and emerging from Tilburstow Hill Road.

A safe crossing-point between Carlton Road and Danemore Lane would not impact A22 traffic throughput since there are in any case lower speed-limit bottlenecks both north and south of the location in question, in the villages of South Godstone and Blindley Heath respectively. Encouraging consistent, lower traffic speeds on the A22 between these villages would bring the environmental advantages associated with less fuel usage and make the road safer and less noisy for residents living on the A22.

Submitted by: Tony Campion
Signatures: 385

Response:

The A22 is a principal road that runs north/south through Surrey. Danemore Lane is a private road on the eastern side of the A22, it has a public footpath over its entire length, and provides access to approximately 25 properties. Carlton Road is a private road on the west side of the A22 which provides access to a large number of properties and has a public bridleway over its entire length. The Tilburstow Hill Road junction with the A22 is approximately 15m north of the junction with Carlton Road. Tilburstow Hill Road is a D-Class road linking the A22 to the B2236 High Street in Godstone. Tilburstow Hill Road also provides access to Lamb Business Park.

The A22 at the junction with Carlton Road and Danemore Lane is subject to a 40mph speed limit. There are nearby bus stops on both sides of the road. Due to the layout of the pavement, pedestrians do cross in this location. To help warn drivers, "Pedestrians crossing ahead" and "accompanied horses likely to be in the road ahead" signs have been installed. There are no plans to install a formal crossing.

The existing speed limit is 40mph. All injury accidents reported to the Police are recorded on a database. This has confirmed that in the last complete 3-year period, there were four injury accidents, but none involving pedestrians or horse riders. This section of road was last benefited from speed surveys in October 2016. One set of survey equipment was attached to the direction sign on the A22 approximately 150m south of the junction with Carlton Road. The average mean speeds recorded by that survey were 39mph in each direction. These results show good compliance with the 40mph speed limit but would not support our policy for introducing a 30mph limit without additional engineering measures. Taking account both measured speeds and the collision history, this section of the A22 in the vicinity of the Danemore Lane, Carlton Road and Tilburstow Hill Road junctions would not be a priority for improvement works.

Surrey County Council has identified the need for a scheme to be carried out on the A22 at the junction with Tilburstow Hill Road, which is just to the north of the Carlton Road and Danemore Lane junctions. This junction has an acute radius which makes it difficult for vehicles, especially large vehicles from Lambs Business park, to turn left out of Tilburstow Hill Road on to the A22. The Tandridge Local Transport Strategy contains a forward programme of transport infrastructure that Surrey would like to see implemented in Tandridge, subject to funding. Improvements at this junction are included in that forward programme. The forward programme can be downloaded from the web page using the following link:

[Tandridge-LTS-December-2014-Forward-Programme.pdf \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/transport-and-infrastructure/transport-planning-and-strategy/tandridge-local-transport-strategy/forward-programme)

Matt Furniss
Cabinet Member for Transport & Infrastructure
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