

# SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL



## LOCAL COMMITTEE (SURREY HEATH)

DATE: **24 FEBRUARY 2022**  
 SUBJECT: **A30 LONDON ROAD, BAGSHOT**  
 DIVISION: **BAGSHOT, WINDLESHAM AND CHOBHAM**

### **PETITION DETAILS:**

A petition has previously been received stating the following:

“Due to increasing devastating accidents and near misses, we are requesting that Surrey County Council reduce the speed limit along the A30 in Bagshot to 30mph (from Jenkins Hill at Waitrose to the A322 junction) along with the installation of speed cameras.

With a large number of vehicles speeding along this section of the A30, which is crossed regularly by many residents (including vulnerable children and the elderly) it is vital that the speed limit is reduced to a safer speed in order to reduce the likelihood of further fatalities.”

### **RESPONSE (UPDATE):**

A response to the petition was presented to the Surrey Heath Local Committee at its meeting held on 21 October 2021. A copy of this response is attached as Annex 1.

The response indicated that a series of new speed surveys would be undertaken along the A30 London Road through Bagshot to assess the extent of any speeding problem, and to determine whether it would be appropriate to consider introducing speed reducing measures.

These surveys have now been completed. The purpose of this update is therefore to present the findings of the surveys, and to provide a more detailed assessment of the measures requested.

### **SPEED SURVEY RESULTS**

Speeds surveys were carried out at 6 locations along the A30 London Road through Bagshot over the 7-days from 15 to 21 November 2021. The surveys recorded the speeds of all vehicles travelling in both directions over this period.

The locations of the surveys are marked on the plan attached as Annex 2.

The findings of the surveys are shown in the table 1 below:

Site number	Current speed limit (mph)	Average daily 2-way flow (vehicles)	Average 85%ile speed (mph)	Average mean speed (mph)
1	50	18,279	43	37
2	40	18,358	39	33
3	40	17,164	38	32
4	40	25,836	37	31
5	40	24,388	37	30
6	40	25,200	40	35

**Table 1 – Speed survey results**

(The 85th percentile speed is the speed at which 85 percent of vehicles are travelling at or below).

The above survey results all indicate a good general level of compliance with the existing speed limits.

### **REQUESTED MEASURES**

The petition suggested that a reduced speed limit and speed enforcement cameras should be introduced.

Whilst the previous response provided general information about the county council's policies for setting speed limits and the use of speed enforcement cameras, the speed survey data collected has now allowed these options to be assessed in more detail.

### **Speed Enforcement Cameras**

In accordance with the county council's policy on the use of safety cameras, the introduction of speed enforcement cameras will only be considered at sites where surveys confirm speed is a problem and only as a last resort after engineering solutions to manage speeds have been considered first.

Since the above surveys all indicate a good general level of compliance with the speed limit, the section of the A30 London Road through Bagshot is not a location where the introduction of average speed cameras or spot speed cameras would be considered to enforce the existing speed limits.

### **Reduction in Speed Limit**

The county council's "Setting Local Speed Limits" policy includes a series of thresholds (based on average mean vehicle speeds) for speed limits for different characters of roads. If the measured existing average mean speeds for a road are below the threshold for a particular speed limit, then the introduction of this limit can be considered with signing only. If the measured average mean speed is above the threshold then a reduction in speed could still potentially be considered but appropriate supporting engineering measures would be required.

The average mean vehicle speeds recorded for each of the surveys sites 2 to 6 are under the threshold below which the introduction of a 30mph speed limit could be considered without requiring the introduction of any additional measures.

A proposal to reduce the speed limit from 40mph to 30mph from the existing 40/50mph speed limit boundary (north of the junction with Bridge Road/Station Road) to a point between Waterers Way and Lupin Close has therefore been included in the programme of schemes to be delivered in 2022/23 by the county council's road safety team.

The introduction of a 30mph speed limit would result in there no longer being any speed limit repeater signs present (repeater signs are not permitted in roads which have a 30mph speed limit and a system of street lighting). The character of London Road may not give the impression of being a 30mph road to some drivers, which could lead to confusion over the speed limit. It is therefore proposed that vehicle activated signs that display the "30" symbol and "SLOW DOWN" when activated are installed as part of the proposal. These will help reduce any confusion and encourage compliance with the lower limit.

The average vehicle speed recorded at site 1 (where the existing speed limit is 50mph) is under the threshold below which the introduction of a 40mph speed limit could be considered without requiring the introduction of any additional measures. Further surveys will therefore be undertaken along the A30 London Road to the north east of site 1 to determine how far a 40mph speed limit could potentially be extended.

Similarly, additional surveys will be undertaken along the A30 London Road between site 6 and the roundabout at the junction with the A325 and The Maultway. The results of these surveys will determine whether the existing 40mph speed limit can be extended towards the roundabout. (At present the speed limit changes from 40mph to 50mph approximately 200m south east of Lupin Close).

Any additional reductions in speed limit determined to be appropriate by the further surveys would then be progressed in conjunction with the proposed introduction of the 30mph speed limit.

In response to the petition's suggestion of introducing a reduced speed limit and speed enforcement cameras, as highlighted previously, speed enforcement cameras would not be introduced at the same time as a new lower speed limit. New speed limits introduced in compliance with the county's speed limit policy

should be successful on their own. However, in accordance with the county council's speed limit policy, an assessment would be undertaken following the introduction of a new speed limit to determine whether there is a good level of driver compliance.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Local Committee is asked to note that:

- (i) A series of speed surveys have been undertaken along the A30 London Road through Bagshot.
- (ii) The results of these surveys are shown in Table 1 above and all indicate a good general level of compliance with the existing speed limit.
- (iii) The results of the surveys indicate that, in accordance with the county council's "Setting Local Speed Limits" policy, a 30mph speed limit could be introduced over the length of the A30 London Road highlighted in Annex 3. A proposal to introduce a 30mph speed limit over this length has therefore been added to programme of road safety schemes to be delivered during the 2022/23 financial year. The proposal also includes the introduction of vehicle activated signs to help encourage compliance with the lower limit.
- (iv) Further surveys are to be undertaken to assess the following:
  - Over what length the existing 50mph speed limit on the A30 London Road, which starts approximately 250m north east of the junction with Station Road and Bridge Road, could potentially be reduced to 40mph.
  - Over what length the existing 50mph speed limit on the A30 London Road, which starts approximately 200m south east of Lupin Close, could potentially be reduced to 40mph.
- (v) Any additional reductions in speed limit determined to be appropriate by the further surveys would be progressed in conjunction with the proposed introduction of the 30mph speed limit.

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