

COMMUNITIES, ENVIRONMENT AND HIGHWAYS SELECT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2024

MEMBER QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE

M1	<p>Submitted by Councillor Catherine Powell</p> <p><i>“School Streets have now been used extensively in London to improve road safety around schools, there are now more than 500 in place. School Streets help children access the school safely, promote active travel and reduce air pollution.</i></p> <p><i>The first School Streets in London were implemented using street signs and physical barriers to prevent motor vehicles from entering the car-free zone. Whilst effective this was resource-intensive, unsightly and adds no value to determine the effectiveness of this strategy and the positive impact it can have on our infrastructure and traffic congestion.</i></p> <p><i>Fortunately, technology has developed, been implemented and tested in London and many school streets are now controlled using unattended ANPR / CCTV technology. This eliminates the requirement for physical barriers to be installed in the middle of the road and may instead be substituted with an autonomous camera that can monitor any cars entering the zone and traffic contraventions.</i></p> <p><i>There are lots of positive case studies including this one Technology and engagement: How we tackled Lewisham School Streets - Marston Holdings</i></p> <p><i>Surrey County Council has recently completed a consultation for a school street in my Division on Bullers Road following a petition by residents before I was elected in May 2021.</i></p> <p><i>Generally, residents and users of the school, students, parents / carers, staff were supportive, and the Officers report supports implementation. However, this will be the first school street in Surrey as with all change it isn't just about what we do, it is about how we do it and how we communicate what we are doing.</i></p> <p><i>As this is a pilot scheme and it is important that it is successful please can the following questions be answered:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1. Has there been consultation with the Councils already successfully operating school streets in London to review the technology that offers the most effective implementation of a school street both in</i>
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terms of compliance and easy of use for residents / businesses on the road? For example, has Lewisham been contacted?

2. *Has the Council selected a technology and if so which one?*
3. *Will residents of the road be able to manage their own vehicle registration numbers via a web portal to minimise the need for Officer time to be spent managing registration numbers and to empower and respecting our residents?*
4. *Can there be a commitment from the Council to meet with residents of Bullers Road at least a month before the implementation of the scheme to help them with interfacing with the technology, particularly as this is the first scheme in Surrey and there will be lessons to learn?"*

Answered by Duncan Knox, Road Safety & Sustainable Scheme Travel Team Manager

The suggestion for a School Street on Bullers Road was first put forward by officers in November 2020 in response to a petition from residents raising concerns over antisocial parking and road safety on Bullers Road. [ITEM 5 Petition Response Bullers Road Farnham.pdf \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#). It was noted at that time that it would only be possible to implement a School Street enforced by automatic camera, because the use of physical barriers would prevent residents from being able to drive in and out of road.

In 2022 Surrey County Council successfully applied for the powers to enforce moving traffic offences following a change in legislation by central government. This meant that for the first time the County Council had the power to enforce School Streets restrictions using automated camera. The Bullers Road scheme was subject to public consultation from May 2024 for six weeks including several face-to-face public engagement events. More information on the scheme and the results of the public consultation can be found here: [Keep in Touch with Latest News - Farnham Heath End School Street - Commonplace](#)

The Bullers Road School Street scheme will be the first School Street in Surrey, and there are plans for several more at other school sites across Surrey. More information on the benefits of School Streets and how they work can be found on the County Council's webpages here: [School Street schemes in Surrey - Surrey County Council \(surreycc.gov.uk\)](#). In answer to the specific questions:

- 1) Surrey County Council Officers have had conversations with officers from a range of other local authorities on their experiences in implementing school streets. Surrey County Council's Officer leading on this programme has also attended a national conference to learn more about the implementation of School Streets hosted by Lambeth Council. [School Streets South | Landor LINKS: LIVE](#)

	<p>2) The technology used will be overseen by the County Council's parking enforcement contractor NSL who manage the enforcement of moving traffic offences for the County Council. NSL are well practiced in providing enforcement of School Streets across several other local authorities.</p> <p>3) Surrey County Council's parking enforcement team will work with NSL to set up a user-friendly system for residents to use to apply for exemptions for the vehicles they own, (registered to their address on Bullers Road).</p> <p>4) Officers have already provided a commitment to meet with residents to show them how to apply for an exemption and answer their questions, and we are happy to reiterate that here. We are intending to implement the School Street sometime after Christmas, and only after the system for residents to use to apply for an exemption has been set up.</p>
M2	<p>Submitted by Councillor Steven McCormick</p> <p><i>"Please can information be provided as to how residents or Councillors could apply for a pavement parking ban and the criteria that will be used to assess if a ban on pavement parking would be appropriate?"</i></p> <p>Answered by David Curl, Parking & Traffic Enforcement Manager</p> <p>Pavement parking restrictions (or bans) can be requested and assessed as part of the parking review process. The procedure for implementing a pavement or verge parking ban is very similar to that of other parking restrictions. There is more information linked here about this and how to apply.</p> <p>In terms of assessment, this would be done as part of the parking review and would include a determination of the scale of the problem, the impact on highway users/safety issues and the likely cost to implement also taking into account other priorities in the parking review.</p> <p>Pavement parking bans are indicated by signs at regular intervals fixed to posts or lamp columns in the pavement. The larger the area, the more signs required and so the potential cost of implementation increases.</p> <p>It would be worth contacting the Parking Engineer covering your area to discuss any proposals at an early stage in the process.</p>

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