

# SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL

LOCAL COMMITTEE (WAVERLEY)

DATE: 28 JUNE 2019

SUBJECT: PETITION RESPONSE REPORT

– REDUCE SPEED LIMIT TO 20MPH ON CRITCHMERE HILL /  
WOOLMER HILL ROAD

DIVISION: HASLEMERE



## **RECOMMENDATION**

**The Local Committee is asked to:**

- (i) Note the officer's comments.

## **REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Woolmer Hill Road would not currently meet the criteria for a reduction in speed limit from 30mph to 20mph, unless the average speeds can be lowered sufficiently in line with the SCC policy for setting local speed limits.

## **PETITION DETAILS:**

**A petition has been received from Mara Plater which contains 30 signatures and reads:**

***“We the undersigned petition Surrey County Council to Reduce speed limit to 20mph on Critchmere Hill / Woolmer Hill Road. Better speed bumps. Reduce speed limit to 20mph. Red markings on road. School and nursery on this road.”***

## **RESPONSE:**

1. The D5508 Woolmer Hill Road links the A287 Hindhead Road to the D5508 Upper Hammer Lane which provides access to the A3. Woolmer Hill School is co-located with The Edge leisure centre at the north west end of the road.
2. Woolmer Hill Road has benefitted from a traffic calming treatment that was installed approximately nine years ago as part of a package of mitigation measures for the new Hindhead tunnel as it was recognised that additional traffic would use this route as a link to and from the A3 at Hindhead.

3. Surrey County Council Engineers have visited the site and inspected the road cushions, which were found to be in a below average condition. Any safety defects that were found at the time of the inspection were submitted for repair; however, it was noted that due to the overall condition, the cushions would ideally require full reconstruction rather than localised patching works. The estimated cost of these repairs would be in the region of £20,000 upwards.
4. It was also noted that the general condition of the carriageway was in an average to below average condition in some areas. Therefore, it would be recommended to resurface the carriageway and repair the road cushions at the same time. Woolmer Hill Road has been added to the 'Winter Damage' surfacing programme, where it will be assessed and prioritised for treatment alongside other roads in similar disrepair across the county.
5. A recent speed survey carried out by Surrey Police shows an average speed of 30mph along the road, which is considered to be compliant with the 30mph speed limit. The SCC policy for setting local speed limits suggests that a 20mph speed limit should only be considered on roads with average speeds of 25mph or less. Therefore, Woolmer Hill Road would not currently meet the criteria for a reduction in speed limit from 30mph to 20mph unless the average speeds can be lowered sufficiently in line with the policy.
6. An analysis of the collision data for Woolmer Hill Road shows four recorded injury accidents within the last three years, although three of the collisions took place in 2016. None of the collisions involved pedestrians and excess speed was not considered to be a contributory factor.
7. Following concerns about road safety raised by the Head Teacher at Woolmer Hill School in July 2017, a 'Road Safety Outside Schools' Audit was carried out in the same month. The audit identified a couple of improvements that could be made, subject to the necessary funding being made available. One of which was the lack of provision of a continuous footway on the northern side of the road between the school car park entrance and exit, meaning that pedestrians would either have to walk through the car park or use the grass verge adjacent to the carriageway. The second improvement was to convert the existing road table by the school entrance from an uncontrolled crossing to a zebra or puffin crossing depending on funding.
8. Since the report was completed a local development contribution has been identified which could provide the necessary funding to carry out the above work, subject to final design and costs. It is hoped that any improvements could be carried out during 2019-20.

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