
PETITION – MARLPIT HILL, EDENBRIDGE, SEVENOAKS

To: **Sevenoaks Joint Transportation Board – 9 March 2021**

By: **Tim Read, Head of Transportation, Kent County Council**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Electoral division: **Sevenoaks Rural South**

Summary: **This report provides an acknowledgement of receipt of the petition for Marlpit Hill, Edenbridge and outlines the actions being taken in response to the issues raised.**

1.0 Introduction and proposal

- 1.1 A petition has been submitted to Kent County Council (KCC) regarding concerns with road safety along Marlpit Hill, Edenbridge. Having reviewed the comments raised, KCC Project Managers within the Schemes Planning and Delivery (SPD) Team undertook a desktop study and attended site to observe the traffic flows and speeds. It was then agreed that investigation was warranted to gather further information.
- 1.2 A meeting took place between Edenbridge Town Council representatives and SPD Project Managers at the end of October 2020. The Town Council instructed this was a top priority for their Highway Improvement Plan. SPD Project Managers advised that traffic surveys would need to be carried out along Main Road to first ascertain the current speeds of vehicles so as to better determine what action is required.
- 1.3 Traffic surveys were programmed to be installed on Monday 4th January 2021 however, due to the Government announcement of the national lockdown these surveys have been postponed. It was felt that if the surveys were carried out during the lockdown period it would not give a true reflection of what is occurring at this location and therefore not aid in identifying appropriate remedial action.

2.0 Next steps

- 2.1 As part of the current surfacing works being carried out along Main Road, we will be extending the existing buff coloured high friction road surface further to a distance of 50 metres from its junction with Hillcrest Road and Hilders Lane. We believe this increased length will offer a better visual aid to highlight the junction to approaching traffic. The high friction surface will also assist braking vehicles reducing their speeds more efficiently.

- 2.2 Traffic surveys are to be reprogrammed as soon as Government restrictions are eased. Automatic tubular surveys will be placed at three locations along Main Road and be in place for 1 whole week. The data will then be collected and provided in a report format.
- 2.3 The information gleaned from the surveys will help the Schemes Project Manager to identify what potential remedial action can be taken improve the highway. They will then work closely with Edenbridge Town Council to establish an agreed way forward based on the investigative evidence and the important local knowledge provided by the community.
- 2.4 Updates on the status of any proposed scheme will be provided on the Schemes Planning and Delivery Works Programme update presented at each JTB. Any formal consultations and start of work notifications will be delivered prior to construction works starting onsite. These will outline what works are to be carried out and how.

3.0 Corporate Implications

None known at this stage.

3.1 Financial and VAT

Costs will be determined when associated remedial action is identified and agreed.

3.2 Legal

All works will be within the publicly maintainable highway for which Kent County Council is responsible.

3.3 Corporate

None.

4.0 Recommendation

- 4.1 That the Joint Transportation Board agree with the proposed actions in going forward.

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Appendices

None.

Background Papers

None.