



**TRAFFIC IN STOUGHTON
A REPORT BY
STOUGHTON COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL
LOCAL COMMITTEE (GUILDFORD)**

21st JULY 2005

KEY ISSUE

This report concerns traffic issues in Stoughton and considers a report prepared by the Stoughton Community Association.

SUMMARY

Traffic issues rank amongst the top three concerns of Stoughton residents (along with crime/public safety and the Queen Elizabeth Park housing development). This report identifies some of the traffic issues within Stoughton and the surrounding area which affect the quality of life of local residents and suggests ways in which the issues might be tackled.

Report by

LOCAL TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

Surrey Atlas Ref.:

GUILDFORD B.C. WARD(S)

STOUGHTON

COUNTY ELECTORAL DIVISION(S)

GUILDFORD NORTH

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to agree:

- (i) that officers continue to work with the Stoughton Community Association (SCA) to resolve as many as possible of the issues they have identified.
- (ii) that in due course a package of measures suggested by SCA be put forward to the Transportation Task Group for detailed consideration and if approved inclusion in the Minor Schemes programme.

INTRODUCTION

- 1 Last autumn, former Cllr. John Hobrough used part of his revenue allowance to organise and provide a professional facilitator for a well-attended public meeting in Stoughton to discuss a wide range of matters of concern to local residents. These concerns were grouped into three main topic areas: the effects of the Queen Elizabeth Park housing development, public safety and fear of crime issues, and issues relating to traffic. The meeting was attended by local Members of both the County and Borough Councils, Sue Doughty MP, and a number of officers.
- 2 It was decided to set up a sub-committee of concerned local residents to work on the traffic issues. The Local Transportation Director has attended a number of these meetings (but not all) in order to provide guidance.
- 3 The traffic sub-committee has invested a considerable amount of time and effort, and the outcome of this is a very extensive report, running to some 70 pages, setting out SCA's concerns, together with photographs, and a range of suggestions to resolve these.
- 4 It was clearly the intention of the sub-committee that the entire report should be considered in detail by the Guildford Local Committee, particularly as it is meeting in Stoughton. Unfortunately the length of the report, the fact that the draft final report was only completed on 7 July 2005, and the number of items on the same agenda have combined to make this impossible. A copy of the full report is available upon request from the officers.
- 5 Despite this, officers would like to express their gratitude to the sub-committee, and particular to Mark Lavender who has acted as author / editor of the report, for the considerable effort expended in preparing this detailed report.
- 6 By way of a compromise, the report has been summarised by Diccon Bright of the Community Support Team, and this summary is attached as **ANNEXE A** to this report.
- 7 In view of the recent receipt of the SCA report, it has not been possible to respond to this point-by-point in this report. Officers will attempt to do so verbally at the meeting of the Committee.

- 8 The issues raised in SCA's report fall into a number of categories:
- Those over which SCC or GBC have direct control, e.g. highway improvements.
 - Maintenance issues.
 - Issues which SCC or GBC may be able to influence e.g. enforcement by Surrey Police of speed limits or matters controlled by public transport operators such as bus stop locations.
 - Issues where little or no influence exists, e.g. alternative fuel vehicles
- 9 It is also important to consider that many of the suggestions put forward may not enjoy the support of the majority of local residents. Experience shows that traffic calming measures and particularly road closures can be highly contentious. Any improvements would need to be subject to public consultation at an appropriate time.
- 10 It is therefore proposed that officers continue to work with SCA to refine the proposals, and in due course to prepare a package of suggested measures for submission to the Transportation Task Group for detailed consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 11 This report has no immediate financial implications.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 12 Should a future scheme be approved, developed and constructed, significant benefits to residential amenity may result through any reduction in actual or perceived speed and volume of traffic using Stoughton.

CONCLUSION AND REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 13 The traffic problems of Stoughton, like those in many parts of Surrey, are acknowledged. It is hoped that approval of the above recommendations and in due course their implementation will in the long term provide some relief to the concerns expressed by the SCA.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: Stoughton Community Association Report on traffic related issues within Stoughton
