

Terms of Reference

Invitees and attendees of this meeting should be aware that the minutes of this meeting, inclusive of names, may be made publicly available under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, or the Data Protection Act 1998.

Meeting title

London Road Active Travel Stakeholder Group meeting

Meeting location

Guildford Rugby Club, GU1 1TU 7.00pm to 8.30pm

Attendees

Chair of meeting, Surrey County Council, Consultation Institute, Councillors, Guildford Borough Council, G-Bug cycling group, Boxgrove Park Residents Association, George Abbot School, Guildford High School, Surrey Climate Commission, London Road Action Group (LRAG), Guildford Residents Association,

Absent/apologies:

Surrey Chamber of Commerce, Surrey Coalition of Disabled People
Stagecoach Bus company, Clock House Retirement Home, Surrey Youth Parliament

Agenda Reference 1

Discussion points

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was opened and everyone thanked for attending.
All attendees introduced themselves and who they are representing.
This meeting is an opportunity for a reset of our engagement with the community.

Agenda Reference 2

The Consultation Institute

Introduced the Consultation Institute.
Not for profit organisation
Best Practice approach
Worked with many Local Authorities and NHS bodies
Advised a different approach is needed/Start the process again.
Formal Stakeholder mapping has been advised.
A collaborative approach is needed.
Need a qualitative outcome rather than quantitative.

Agenda Reference 3

Context/scope of London Road Active Travel scheme

Surrey County Council applied for the funding in 2020.
Surrey County Council are committed to delivering sustainable, safe travel corridors.
New Inn Lane to York Road (London Road) and Dutch style roundabout.
Further background Information on Surrey County Council Website from Guildford Cycling Plan, Guildford Borough Transport Strategy

Discussed the Public meeting on the 5 January 2023

Community expressed concern following information that the section of London Road from New Inn Lane to the Boxgrove roundabout would be closed in one direction for 5 months. Confirmed that the 5 month closure will no longer happen.

Redesign of scheme underway

Following the public meeting Surrey County Council have continued to work on how they can engage with the community more efficiently.

Stakeholder Group established following stakeholder mapping and analysis.

Plan of engagement, design and delivery are in progress.

Action

Surrey County Council ongoing action

Agenda Reference 4

Public and Stakeholder engagement; approach and role of the Stakeholder Reference Group

Purpose of the Stakeholder Group explained: Not a formal decision-making group – the focus of the group is to shape an engagement process for future engagement with the wider community.

Surrey County Council have reset the process and want to co-produce a way forward together and how Surrey County Council engage with the community.

Understand local knowledge/needs.

The whole scheme is to be included in this reset (London Road as a whole from New Inn Lane to York Road, including the Dutch roundabout at Boxgrove).

To be agreed:

Draft Engagement Plan

Methods of engagement

Timescales for engagement

Action for agenda reference 4

Ongoing action to be discussed by all attendees at next meeting

Agenda Reference 5

Discussion/Concerns

The group as a whole discussed subjects which will be covered in the forthcoming Stakeholder Group meeting and workshops

What do we as a group want to achieve from these meetings?

Starting from a challenging position.

Move away from statistical data – opinions not numbers are the important factor.

Differing views – Very against the scheme, very pro the scheme, or main concern is the delivery and how this will affect day to day live of residents and road users.

Concerns over the initial design – width of road and floating bus stops being the main point.

Focus needed on the safety of the scheme – both delivery and design.

Concerns over the delivery

How can we engage with younger people as they tend not to engage with traditional methods

Important need to engage with George Abbot school due to immediate location and number of pupils/staff attending.

Negative language around the scheme needs to be removed from communications (Poster at Kings Parade)

How to capture a wider group and out of area people.

The issue was raised that the updated design of the scheme in its entirety (London Road full length and Dutch style Roundabout) needs to be seen to enable a better understanding and to enable better engagement with the community.

Potential need to revise the engagement plan schedule to align with updated design availability.

Action for agenda reference 5

Ongoing action Many of the agenda reference 5 points raised will be covered in the forthcoming workshops.

Agenda Reference 6

Next Steps

Co-produce an engagement plan that has a broader reach to the wider community and users of London Road.

Commit to 3 further Stakeholder Group meetings.

Commit to 2 workshops – one for the design element and one for the Delivery element

Confirm date of next Stakeholder group

Engagement ideas

Social Media - local platforms on Facebook/Next Door

Direct engagement with all surrounding schools

Drop in sessions

Surveys

Letter drops

Website – visitors to the site are invited to receive an alert when website is updated.

Onsite posters/Information board (where safe to do so)

Newsletters

Action for agenda reference 6

Ongoing action to be discussed by all attendees at next meeting

Agenda Reference 7

Next meeting: To be confirmed.

Location: To be confirmed - Accessible for all