

Agenda Item No.

TO: SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DATE: 17 March 2008

SUBJECT: WATER LANE, OSPRINGE – HIGHWAY SAFETY ISSUES

BY: TRANSPORTATION MANAGER – Mid Kent Division Kent Highway Services

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: An up-date to members of the latest position with regard to this matter

Decision Required: That Members note the report

Introduction

1. Following representations from local residents and Ospringe Primary School through Local and County Members about the need for safety improvements in Water Lane due to the traffic conditions, a site meeting was held on 22 January 2008 with KHS officers, local councillors, the Parish Council and key representatives to discuss their concerns in more detail.
2. It was agreed to draw up a scheme which would then be brought back to this group for further consideration. Please see the attached appendix

Discussion

3. The following measures were discussed and considered at the site meeting to be taken forward under the following terms:-
 - short term works to include recovering all existing road markings and introducing a new 'slow' carriageway marking on the northern approach to the school in Water Lane and an improved and advanced school warning sign on the same approach.
 - Medium term plans to include School flashing amber lights at suitable locations, no waiting at any time parking restrictions at critical locations for highway safety reasons and to support the priority working at specific narrow points in Water Lane and, improvements at the junction of Water Lane with A2 to help improve driver visibility.
 - Longer term plans to include making the necessary improvements where feasible to help with the introduction of a school walking bus.

4. The medium and longer term plans will need to be the subject of a public consultation exercise and developed with the school and local County and Borough Councillors. The schemes will need to be developed and approved before public consultation and it is planned to progress this in the 2008/09 financial year for assessment under the PIPKIN process.
5. The short term measures should be carried out within the routine maintenance cycles planned for the 2008/09 financial year.

Decision Required

6. That Members note the report.

Responsible Officer

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