

**TO:** SWALE JOINT TRANSPORTATION BOARD  
**DATE:** 7<sup>th</sup> September 2009  
**SUBJECT:** Priory Row, Davington  
**BY:** Transportation and Development Manager – Swale  
**Classification:** Unrestricted

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**Summary:** A report on a consultation made to implement this scheme  
**Decision Required:** To consider the report and objections received.

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### **Introduction**

1. A scheme to provide improvements along Priory Row for those walking to school was put out to public consultation on the 1<sup>st</sup> June. The document and plan is attached at Appendix 1 and 2. The scheme has been approved under a Stage 1 Road Safety Audit.
2. The scheme was developed as a result of a petition from parents and teachers attending Davington Primary School asking Kent Highway Services – *“to consider taking effective practical steps to make both crossing and using the pavements along Priory Row safer.”*
3. The scheme as shown in Appendix 2 seeks to address the issues raised.

### **Discussion**

4. As a consequence of a consultation of approximately 65 properties a total of 38 representations were made with 29 objections, 5 no objections and 4 requesting modifications.
5. The primary objection to the scheme was that it would significantly reduce the available parking for parents bringing their children to school by car and adversely affect residents, visitors to the church and the convenience store.
6. Businesses along Ham Road were concerned that the build out at the junction with Priory Row would restrict the movements of large vehicles.
7. A 24 hr/7 day automated speed survey carried out outside the school recorded an average weekly mean speed of 24.1 mph and the 85%tile speed was 29.9 mph which is within normal tolerances for a 30 mph speed limit.
8. There have been no reported personal injury crashes over the last 3 year period up to 31/03/2009 along Priory Row.

9. This scheme achieved a priority rating as it met the objectives of the Council by one or more of the following means:
- Improving **Accessibility** to key services by public transport **and walking and cycling**.
  - Improving **Road Safety** by reducing the number of personal injury crashes on local roads.
  - **Tackling Congestion** by managing the highway network more effectively and promoting more sustainable modes of transport.
  - Better **Air Quality** by reducing the environmental impact of traffic, especially in urban areas.
10. With parents having a choice of schools there is a tendency to drive to popular schools. At virtually every school at the start and end of the daily session culminates in a significant number of parents arriving by cars to drop off/pick up their children. This often leads to a period of congestion but not necessarily a safety problem. Indeed the congestion tends to calm vehicle speeds.
11. A requirement of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 is for all Local Authorities to promote sustainable travel to school and inform existing and prospective pupils, parents and staff of the provisions in place to enable them to travel to school by means other than the private car.
12. The aim of the scheme is to encourage walking by providing a safer environment. However the representations made by residents do not concur with this as they have not witnessed, over many years, any traffic incident involving pedestrians/children going to school.
13. Suggestions have been put forward to change traffic flows (one way systems) but this would have a widespread affect on the operation of the local highway network. Any proposal would have to be submitted as a separate scheme in the next bid for scheme priority assessment but would be unlikely to achieve a high priority rating. Other suggestions of bollards and build outs at junctions between Ham Road and Priory Road cannot be accommodated within the confines of the public highway.

### **Decision Required**

14. That the scheme as shown is abandoned as implementation would create unacceptable additional problems to local amenity.

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## Priory Row, Davington – proposed Safer Routes to School Scheme Consultation Sheet



### Location

Priory Row is in a residential area to the north west of Faversham. A school is located within this residential area (Davington Primary School) and a large number of people walk and drive to and from this school every day.

Following a petition from the school, problems were identified with crossing the roads in the area and a site investigation was carried out.

### What are we planning to do?

The results of the investigation showed that wide bell mouths at the junctions of Priory Road and Ham Road and crossing Priory Row were hazardous and deterring parents from walking their children to school.

A plan showing details of the scheme is shown on the back of this leaflet.

### How will we carry out the work?

There are no plans at present to construct the proposed scheme until residents have had an opportunity to write in with their views on the scheme. Therefore if you have any views or comments to make regarding the proposed traffic calming scheme please write to:

Swale Transportation Manager  
Kent Highway Services  
Ashford Highway Depot  
4 Javelin Way  
Ashford  
Kent, TN24 8AD

If no significant objections to the proposals are received from residents, work to complete the design of the scheme will continue with work to construct the scheme being carried out next year (2010).

All views and comments **MUST** be received by **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2009** in order for them to be presented to Members of the next Joint Transportation Board which is to be held in September 2009.

### How to Contact us?

For further information in the first instance please call Kent Highway Services on our 24hr helpline 08458 247 800 or email [www.kent.gov.uk/highways](http://www.kent.gov.uk/highways)



B120090001

Proposed Full Drop-off Area & Right-Hand Drive, Green Tick or Opposite side of Road

Existing Vehicle Crossover/Driveway to provide Full Street Connection to Property

Proposed Recovery Bulbuck

NO	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	FOR
1	ISSUED	15/08/2021	...	...
2	REVISED	...	...	...

**JACOBS**

1500 @ A1

Do not scale

For Consultation

15/08 @ A1

Do not scale

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