

Surrey County Council

Guildford College Link+ 20mph Speed Limit Scheme Statement of Reasons

Summary of the issue

The “Guildford College Link+” is a highway improvement scheme to support easier and safer cycling, scooting and walking between Guildford college and Guildford rail station. Part of the route includes Dapdune Road, Nettles Terrace and Markenfield Road (between Woodbridge Road and Stoke Road). It is proposed that these roads and all nearby residential roads bounded by the railway line, Stoke Road, Woodbridge Road and York Road are provided with a lower 20mph speed limit in order contribute to easier and safer walking and cycling along the “Guildford College Link+” route and throughout the adjoining neighbourhood of residential roads.

Background

The “Guildford Town Centre Transport Package” consists of seven infrastructure schemes being constructed during 2017-2020 which intend to make it easier and safer for people to get around Guildford town centre by walking, scooting, cycling and public transport. Funding for the “Guildford Town Centre Transport Package” was obtained as a result of a successful bid to the Enterprise M3 Local Enterprise Partnership in 2016.

One of the schemes called the “Guildford College Link+” is designed to provide a quiet and pleasant route for pedestrians and cyclists, connecting the rail station to Guildford College via Walnut Bridge and the Bedford Wharf area.

The scheme will include off-road cycle facilities (where there is sufficient width) or routing on quieter residential roads where it is safer to cycle on the road due to less traffic and slower speeds. The scheme also includes a new Toucan Crossing across Woodbridge Road near Wharf Road and another across Stoke Road near Markenfield Road.

Lower speeds reduce the risk and severity of collisions and can help support more walking, scooting and cycling. This report proposes a new lower 20 mph speed limit on the part of the “Guildford College Link+” where cyclists will be travelling on the road (namely Markenfield Road, Nettles Terrace and Dapdune Road). It is also proposed that a 20-mph speed limit is implemented on the residential roads

throughout the adjoining neighbourhood to ensure consistency of speed limit and contribute to easier and safer walking throughout the residential area.

Recommendations

It is recommended:

1. A 20 mph speed limit is implemented on Gardner Road, Markenfield Road, Nettles Terrace, Dapdune Road, Park Road, Drummond Road, George Road, Artillery Terrace, Artillery Road, Stoke Fields, Stoke Grove and Church Road to support safer walking and cycling along the “Guildford College Link+” route and throughout the adjoining neighbourhood of residential roads.
2. Speed data has been obtained and it has been confirmed that a lower 20mph speed limit without traffic calming would comply with the county council’s speed limit policy, based on national guidance. The police have been consulted and have no objections to the proposals.

Reason for recommendations

The proposed lower 20 mph speed limit on Markenfield Road, Nettles Terrace and Dapdune Road will contribute to easier and safer walking, scooting and cycling on the new “Guildford College Link+” route between Guildford rail station and Guildford College. Providing a 20-mph speed limit on these roads and throughout the adjoining neighbourhood of residential roads will ensure consistency of speed limit and will contribute to easier and safer walking throughout the residential area.