



My Ref: TS/T/6/2/30
Your Ref:
Please ask for: Gillian Spence
Tel: 01642 526720
Email: technicalservices@stockton.gov.uk

12950

26th November 2010

Dear Mr Bennett

**THE BOROUGH OF STOCKTON ON TEES, SURBITON ROAD, STOCKTON ON TEES,
PROPOSED SPEED CUSHION**

Further to your letter of objection regarding the above advertised proposal which was formally received by Legal Services on 18 November 2010 and forwarded onto Network Safety for reply.

I note from your objection that you are unsure of the reasoning behind the proposed additional speed cushion. I refer to my letters dated 28 July and 5 October 2010 advising that the chicane feature is currently incomplete as a result of the removal of one of the triangular build outs which had been incorrectly located. The proposal to install a speed cushion adjacent to the remaining triangular build out, was proposed as part of the remedial scheme and its need was reinforced as a result of the independent Road Safety Audit which recommended that the feature needs completing in order to further reduce vehicle speeds to an appropriate level.

Since the majority of the scheme has been implemented vehicle speed surveys along Surbiton Road indicate that average vehicle speeds northbound have reduced by 6.7mph and by 1.1mph southbound. Every 1mph reduction in average vehicle speed as a result of traffic calming has been found to reduce accidents by around 5%. The reduction in vehicle speeds co-incidentally reduces the potential for injury accidents, or the severity of any accidents that may occur. Collusion records on all roads within the Borough are continually monitored.

Traffic survey information indicated that Surbiton Road is acceptable for chicanes and pinch points. Generally priority working is acceptable for traffic flows of 850 vehicles per hour, in both directions and traffic flows during the busiest hours on Surbiton Road were surveyed at less than 300. Therefore traffic flows should be sufficient to ensure opposing vehicles will meet and slow down, as is the intended purpose of the features, but flows are not high enough for long queues to occur.

Vehicle tracking analysis (plan enclosed) indicates that reversing off your driveway is not adversely affected by the existing triangular build out, and that the installation of the speed cushion would not obstruct access to or from your driveway.

Mr J. Bennett
286 Surbiton Road
Fairfield
Stockton-on-Tees
TS19 7SA


An extensive public consultation exercise was undertaken as part of the feasibility study process for this scheme. Physical measures were considered necessary in order to reduce vehicle speeds and feedback from local residents supported their provision.

Please would you consider the information provided, in this and previous correspondence. The next stage of the process is to ask you to consider your objection in terms of if you wish to uphold or withdraw your objection to the proposed single speed cushion. If you wish to uphold your objection, the matter will be referred to the Council's Appeals and Complaints Committee for consideration. As a formal objector, you will be invited to attend the Committee meeting and be given every opportunity to present your case to the Committee Members. I understand you have already received notification from Democratic Services that an Appeals and Complaints Committee has been arranged for 15 December 2010 and this item is provisionally on the Agenda, although if all unresolved objections are withdrawn the item can be removed from the Agenda.

Please could you complete the attached reply slip indicating your intentions and return it by 6 December 2010. A pre-paid envelope is attached for your convenience.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Yours sincerely



Simon Milner
Network Safety Manager

Encl.

CC: Councillor M. Perry
Councillor W. Woodhead
Sue Wilkinson, Legal Services, Municipal Buildings

STOCKTONONTESBC

18 NOV 2010

LAW + DEMOCRACY

286 Surbiton Road
Fairfield
Stockton-on-Tees
TS19 7SA

D E Bond
Director of Law & Democracy
Municipal Buildings
Church Road
Stockton-on-Tees
TS18 1LD

Dear Mr Bond,

I am writing concerning the proposals to introduce a new speed cushion in Surbiton Road. My family strongly oppose these proposals, and fail to understand why they are being considered, let alone implemented.

The current road safety measures that have been built along Surbiton Road have, in my opinion, not helped at all in making the roads safer but rather the opposite as we have experienced a much greater percentage of accidents along the road since they've been introduced as opposed to before they were implemented. I can only assume that a further speed cushion is being considered as the measures already put in place have not worked.

It is already incredibly difficult to reverse out of the driveway due to the existing safety measure as it forces build-ups of cars, particularly at busy times, and to introduce another limit in a speed cushion would make it impossible. I believe it would be more dangerous than useful to do this.

I strongly urge the council not to go ahead with these plans. The existing measures are regarded with both disdain and derision amongst the majority of people who live on Surbiton Road and its joined roads as it is. They do not benefit anyone, but rather make driving along it much more difficult and dangerous. I feel that the proposal to introduce a speed cushion on Surbiton Road is extremely foolish.

Yours truly,
James Bennett