Dear Resident/Business

The purpose of this newsletter is to inform you that Merton Council is proposing to make it easier and more convenient for pedestrians, particularly children, to use the footway and cross High Path outside Merton Abbey Primary School.

This proposal is part of a borough wide initiative funded by Transport for London aimed at improving conditions for those attending schools in the borough by trying to make it more convenient to walk and, in some schools, cycle to school. At Merton Abbey School already 65% of children walk to school and the aim is to increase this number.

Following discussions with the School it has been agreed that a safer crossing facility and wider footway outside the school would be beneficial. The Council is therefore proposing to widen the very narrow footway outside the school and replace an existing road hump with a (6 metre long) speed table close to one of the pedestrian access points to the school (see plan overleaf). The proposed scheme will raise drivers’ awareness, reduce vehicular speed and help control the crossing area.

By helping to reduce the perception of danger this could even encourage more people to walk to school which, of course, would reduce car numbers particularly at school start and finish times.

Please note that the proposed scheme will not affect on-street parking in the area.

This scheme is a ‘Safer Routes to School’ scheme funded by Transport for London. This road has been chosen because the school has shown a commitment to implementing sustainable modes of transport, by promoting school travel plan. In respect of this, the scheme is not proposed in response to a history of accidents, although some aspects of the proposed measures may help prevent any future incidents and will certainly improve the environment for the pupils whilst crossing the road.

* Please see the drawing overleaf which shows details of the proposed footway widening and speed table.

How to make your view count

Before proceeding further the Council would like your views on the proposal.

The decision on the implementation of the scheme will be subject to the responses received during this consultation. Please be sure to complete your enclosed prepaid reply card and return it together with any further comments and suggestions you may have by Friday 24th August 2007.

Note: In view of the large number of responses received during the public consultation it will not be possible to reply individually to each respondent.

What happens next

The result of the consultation along with officer’s recommendations will be reported to the Street Management Advisory Committee or the Cabinet Member for Environment & Street Management. Once a decision is made you will be informed accordingly via a newsletter.

You can view the plans in Wimbledon Library or at Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, Morden. Alternatively, you can download files from the Merton website www.merton.gov.uk/highpath_srts

Contact us

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