

TACKLING TRAFFIC PROBLEMS

M23 / A23 Interchange

■ Background

- When the M23 was constructed over 30 years ago it was planned to terminate in South London. This link northbound from Hooley was never completed and the motorway ends and joins the A23 just south of the village.
- Traffic travelling north on the A23 has no direct access onto the M23.
- In the intervening years a variety of proposals for the junction have been put forward. Nothing has yet been actioned.
- The Highways Agency's latest public consultation was due to report in March 2004.
- The current situation and uncertainty around these major changes to the road network has impacted on the Hooley community as follows:

- Drivers u-turn across the dual carriageway from the A23 northbound carriageway to gain access to the M23 southbound. This is a dangerous manoeuvre. It causes accidents and results in congestion.

- Traffic leaving the motorway has not slowed sufficiently by the time it enters Hooley. Residents living adjacent to the A23 have continual difficulties entering and leaving their properties by car.

- Turning onto the A23 northbound is reported as being difficult because of the speed of traffic exiting the motorway.

- Pedestrians have difficulty crossing the carriageway. The pedestrian phase at the traffic lights is too short for some residents.

- Some local businesses consider that their position is blighted by the uncertainty of future development and the difficulties that residents experience with vehicular access.

- Many residents rated this as the issue of most concern at the Local Feedback session. It was also an important issue at Residents Association and Neighbourhood Forum meetings. Some residents living adjacent to the A23 completed traffic observation diaries to explain the extent of their daily problems.



■ **Location(s)** A23 Hooley until M23 interchange.

■ Action

- Make representations to the Highways Agency for the early report of the outcome of public consultation undertaken in 2003.

Responsibility: Reigate and Banstead Borough Council,
Surrey County Council Highways

- Review of traffic speed on the A23 in Hooley.
Responsibility: Surrey Police Accident Reduction
- Providing mobile electronic variable speed reporting signs.
Responsibility: Highways Agency

■ Resource

- Reigate and Banstead Borough Council Officer time to write funding application for variable speed sign.

■ Timescale

- Highways Agency still in discussions with Surrey Highways - Summer 2005.
- Police speed survey undertaken by February 2005.
- Mobile variable speed sign in place by 2006.

■ Outcome Measure/Reporting

- Community informed of outcome of consultation.
- Speed reduction survey undertaken.
- Introduction of mobile variable speed sign

■ Local Community : What you can do

- Observe the speed limits.
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