

*London Road Action Group (LRAG) Update

18 February 2023

It is 6 weeks since the public meeting on the London Active Travel Scheme at George Abbot School.

Since then, the group has been working with all those resident associations, schools, businesses, service providers (such as bus operators) and individuals who have expressed an interest in continuing involvement. It's quite a list!

In the next week our social media site will be up and running and we will start to send out regular communications. If you haven't already, please let us know that you would like to receive these updates by emailing info@lrag.co.uk (all characters in lower case).

We have now engaged with Surrey County Council, and we are working to get definite answers to our questions – on the new consultation, design of the scheme, and proposals for implementation of the scheme. A number of queries raised at the public meeting, and subsequently, are still outstanding.

We have been very disappointed so far by the scope, level and substance of information provided on the official London Road active travel scheme website so far. This is not living up to the expectations set, and the commitments made at the public meeting.

We hope this will improve and rest assured that we will continue to represent all concerns and queries.

What we know so far...

- The first stakeholder meetings which are part of the new consultation exercise are scheduled to take place at the end of February. The current aim is to conclude the consultation just after Easter.
- Different options for the implementation of phase 1 are being considered. It is unlikely that the implementation of phase 1 – between New Inn Lane and Boxgrove roundabout – will start before the school summer holidays. This is to ensure that there is minimal disruption to school pupils during exam time.
- It appears (from information recently uploaded to the SCC website) that the support for the scheme which SCC has advertised so far is based on **77 telephone interviews with residents in GU1, GU2 and GU4 in February 2021**.
- SCC has acknowledged that the accident statistics cited at the public meeting were incorrect. Rather than **89** accidents involving cyclists between **2017 and 2022** between New Inn Lane and Boxgrove roundabout, there were **12** accidents if both roundabouts are included, and **8** accidents if the roundabouts are excluded.
- The phase 1 design will influence the design of Phase 3 to ensure consistency across neighbouring networks.
- Physical segregation of cyclists from other road users and a continuous cycle lane is a requirement of active travel funding.
- A cycle path across Stoke Park rather than along London Road from Boxgrove roundabout to York Road will not meet the criteria for active travel scheme funding and is therefore not being actively considered as an alternative.
- A speed limit of 20mph is not currently under consideration for London Road.

Please feel free to contact us about anything you'd like to discuss, or query, or feedback on info@lrag.co.uk (all characters in lower case).

*The purpose of the London Road Action Group (LRAG) is to represent and give voice to the views of local residents, businesses, community groups and schools on Surrey County Council's plans for an active travel scheme on London Road, and to provide a conduit for SCC to communicate with these groups.