

Environment and Enterprise Directorate  
Corporate Director – Caroline Bruce

Councillor

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014

Our ref: AD/ Ashridge

Your ref:

Dear Councillor

**Petition regarding the Carriageway and Footways in Fernbrook Drive/ Alfriston Avenue/ Romney Drive**

I refer to the petition presented on behalf of the residents of Fernbrook Drive, Alfriston Avenue and Romney Drive and have been asked to respond on behalf of the Council. Please accept my apologies for the delay in responding.

As the number of petitioners has exceeded thirty, in accordance with the Council's policy, I am writing to you only as the lead petitioner. This response will be published on the Council's website and a copy sent to your fellow Ward Councillors.

The views and concerns of residents are noted. However, in order to as far as is practicable, produce a fair and unbiased programme of footway and carriageway works, these are based upon a robust scoring system which removes personal preferences but combines the results from structural surveys carried out by consultants on behalf of the Council with scores based on usage, the risk factor, corporate objectives and impact. The extent of the programme is limited by the available budget and is prioritised on the scores given to each road.

Consequently I regret that Fernbrook Drive, Alfriston Avenue and Romney Drive are not included within the current programmes of work.

However, all footways and carriageways are inspected on a periodic basis between three and four times a year. As a result of these inspections localised repairs are implemented where a defect exceeds the Council's intervention levels and is considered to be a potential hazard to pedestrians or vehicle users.

Unfortunately there is only a finite budget and I trust you will appreciate the need to target maintenance on a priority basis.

In respect of the issue of speeding traffic, Barry Philips the Team Leader for Traffic, Parking & Road Safety has commented that the problem of speeding vehicles is regrettably common at a number of locations within the borough and as a result the Council receives a large number of requests for measures to address these concerns.

The Council has no powers to prosecute motorists for speeding, only the Police are able to do this. Consequently we have established criteria for dealing with requests which is targeted towards

accident reduction involving personal injury. This is in line with the Mayor for London's road safety strategy to reduce the number of killed and seriously injured traffic incidents in London by 40% by the year 2020.

I have checked our most update personal accident data for Alfriston Avenue/ Fernbrook Drive/ Romney Drive, which has revealed that there have been no speed related incidents involving personal injury within the last three years. A three-year period of study is the standard nationally, by which traffic engineers assess the frequency of road accidents and identify particular accident trends for the purpose of assessing road safety and for making comparisons with other areas. On that basis unfortunately we cannot include these roads in our current road safety programme.

Your concerns will be placed on record so that your request can be investigated in future.

Yours sincerely,

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