

Full Council – 15 November 2023

Written question from Mr and Mrs Kinnaird to the Leader (with responsibility Transport and Infrastructure, Highways PFI and Transport Strategy, Strategic Oversight and External Partnerships)

We live in Hunnyhill, Newport. It is a busy road with heavy flow of traffic. It is becoming dangerous to cross the road safely, with many vehicles speeding up and down the road, far in excess of the 30mph speed limit. It is only a matter of time before there is an accident. The only safe pedestrian crossings available, are at the top end and bottom end of Hunnyhill.

Your constituents, living on and walking along hunnyhill are the Elderly, Parents with children and The disabled, who (like me or my wife) who is registered blind.

I'm asking that this council to look for a solution, to solve this problem, before someone is injured. Or even worse killed.

Response

'Thank you very much for your request and we do appreciate the concerns raised.

It is worth noting that the Isle of Wight Council, either direct or via our Highways Service Provider, receive many such requests and concerns on a daily basis regarding locations across the Island.

Therefore your request, just like others received, are forwarded Island Roads as our Highways Service Provider for assessment by the Road Safety Engineer for inclusion on the Highways Safety and Improvement Register. This assessment will include an initial desktop evaluation of the location based on their extensive knowledge of the local highway network, available traffic statistics including previous surveys, the current road conditions i.e., speed limit, traffic regulation orders etc and the road traffic collision statistics. This will determine an initial score which will indicate if it is a priority for the Isle of Wight Council as the local Highways Authority to consider for improvement.

As you have alluded to, due to the complexity of the location and its use by the public, it may result in more than a single improvement proposal, some of which may require designs to be developed and public consultations.

Until the outcome of the assessment is known, we are not able to advise as to whether an improvement in this location is a priority or any potential timescales, as again any recommended improvements will have to be further considered against other known priority safety schemes, such as the improvements to Vittlefields Cross, Newport and the section of the A3056 within the Safer Roads Project, which has been identified as national road safety priority.

In the meantime, we shall request a further survey of the traffic within this location, if one has not been conducted within recent years to better understand current traffic conditions to help inform the assessment.'