

Report to	Lead Member for Transport and Environment
Date	25 July 2005
Report By	Director of Transport and Environment
Title of Report	Petition for pedestrian improvements on A275, Chailey
Purpose of Report	To consider a petition requesting pedestrian crossing facilities on A275 near Mill Lane, Chailey

RECOMMENDATION:

To advise the petitioners that this location has been included on the County Council's list for the provision of a crossing although its priority is relatively low and a crossing cannot be provided in the short term.

1. Financial Appraisal

1.1 There are no additional financial implications at this stage in respect of the recommendations detailed in this report.

2. Supporting Information

2.1 At the County Council meeting on 27 December 2004 Councillor Mrs Stroude presented a petition to the Chairman requesting pedestrian crossing facilities on A275 near Mill Lane, Chailey

2.2 A copy of the petition is available in the Members' Room. Standing Orders provide that where the Chairman considers it appropriate, petitions are considered by the relevant Committee or Lead Member and that a spokesperson for the petitioners be invited to address the Committee. The Chairman has referred this petition to the Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment.

3. Comments / Appraisal

3.1 On 3 March 2003 the Lead Member for Transport and Environment agreed an assessment procedure for prioritising requests for pedestrian facilities to ensure that these are provided on the basis of impartially assessed need. As part of that procedure an initial assessment on any request for pedestrian facilities is undertaken. There are two routes towards a detailed investigation:- (1) where a pedestrian casualty has been recorded, that site will automatically progress to a more detailed investigation; and (2) where there is no pedestrian casualty record a sample one hour count of pedestrians (P) and vehicles (V) will be undertaken and only sites with a sample PV^2 value in excess of the approved criterion level will be considered for the provision of pedestrian facilities. Research has demonstrated that the PV^2 rating is a realistic and reliable measure of how difficult it is to cross a road.

3.2 Sussex Police records show that one pedestrian casualty has been recorded at this location in the latest three year period. Therefore, the site meets the initial criterion for further consideration of a crossing facility and was put forward for more detailed investigation, which involved carrying out a 12 hour count of pedestrians and vehicles in order to determine the value of PV^2 based on the four busiest hours. Priority for construction is given to the sites with the highest PV^2 values. The results of the detailed investigation into all sites meeting the initial criterion were reported to the Lead Member on 4 April 2005, at

which time the relative priority of this request in comparison with others in the County was considered.

3.3 As this site was ranked 34 out of 49 requests for crossings, with a relatively low priority for the provision of crossing facilities, it is unlikely a crossing can be provided in the near future. The site will remain on the list to be reprioritised when the provision of pedestrian facilities is next considered by the Lead Member. It is anticipated that this will take place in April 2006

4. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendation

4.1 Although the site meets the basic criterion for the provision of a pedestrian crossing it has a relatively low priority when compared to other sites across the County. The site will remain on the list to be reprioritised when this issue is next considered by the Lead Member.

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Director of Transport and Environment

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Local Member: Councillor Stroude

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Lead Member Report – 3 March 2003 – Pedestrian Crossing Assessment Procedure.

Lead Member Report – 4 April 2005 – Priority Assessment of Requests.

Policy Summary – PS4/7.