



Mr Howard Preston
Sandyhurst Lane Residents' Association
140 Sandyhurst Lane
Ashford
Kent
TN25 4NX

Kent County Council
Highways & Transportation
Ashford Highway Depot
4 Javelin Way
Ashford
Kent
TN24 8AD

Contact us at: www.kent.gov.uk/highways
Telephone: 08458 247 800
Ask for: Steve Darling
Reference: 13000672
Date: 4 October 2011

Dear Mr Preston

A20 Maidstone Road / Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford

Thank you for your letter, raising road safety concerns at this junction. As you can imagine, Kent County Council (KCC) receives many requests every year for new highway improvement schemes. Due to substantial Government cut backs in funding, KCC cannot meet this demand from the available budget, and so has to carefully prioritise which improvements we can deliver and those we just cannot afford.

On this basis, we will only progress improvements in a situation that is deemed 'safety critical'. Our definition of safety critical is where there has been a pattern of injury-related crashes within the last three years, of the type we would be addressing by implementing the works requested.

I have examined the crash record, and concluded that this site warrants further investigation. As a part of our annual Casualty Reduction Programme, we will closely examine the safety record in the area, in conjunction with the Police. At this stage I cannot be more specific on what the outcome of this study will be, but please be assured that we will take whatever action we can justify, within the budgets that we have available.

Yours sincerely

Steve Darling
Traffic Engineer