Proposed Road Layout Change, Nursery Road, Lower Sunbury on Thames

Public Engagement Results



Public Engagement Overview

Background & Purpose

Surrey County Council is proposing to modify the road layout outside Springfield Primary School, by removing the existing layby to create a wider pavement, improving pedestrian access and enhancing safety at the school entrance.

A public engagement exercise was carried out between **15th December 2025 and 19th January 2026** providing residents, local businesses, and other road users with an opportunity to review the proposed scheme and share their views.

The purpose of the engagement was to gather local insight, understand any concerns, and ensure that all affected stakeholders had the chance to contribute before the scheme progresses further.

This report summarises the feedback received throughout the engagement period and sets out officers' recommendations and responses to the comments raised.

Engagement Methodology

Engagement materials - including plans, supporting information, and speed data - were made available on the project webpage: https://nursery-road-sunbury-on-thames.commonplace.is

To ensure wide awareness, all residents and businesses within the area were notified by letter, local schools were contacted by email, and large information boards were placed in the area.

Engagement Response Level

510	Visitors to engagement webpage
43	Survey respondents
12	Respondents living on impacted road
18	Respondents living in the local area
1	Respondent with a business on the impacted road
12	Respondents travel in this area

Recommendation

Although the engagement did not show overall support for the scheme, many respondents, including residents living on the affected roads expressed strong support for the changes to the layout of the road outside Springfield School.

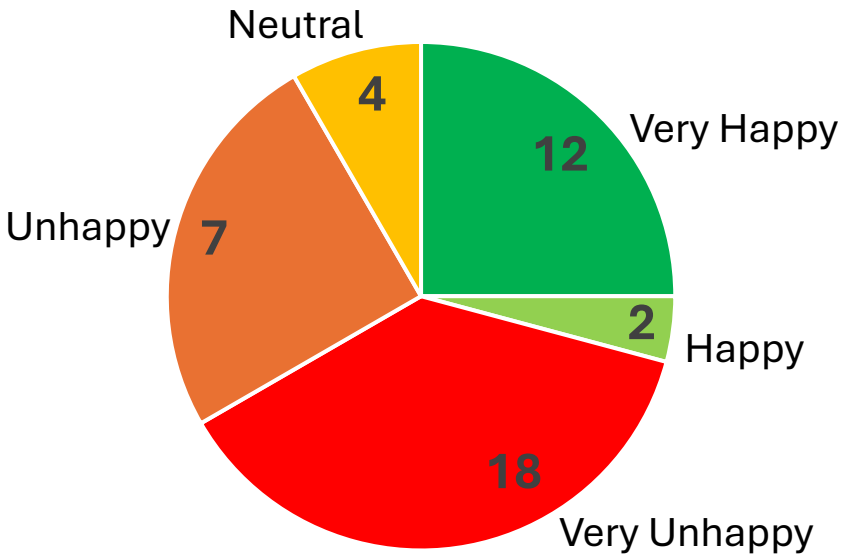
Concerns mainly related to parking pressures, congestion and issues such as reducing speed and providing additional crossings were more important.

The council believes the proposed changes will meaningfully improve the pedestrian environment outside the school and encourage safer, more sustainable travel.

Sentiment of Respondents

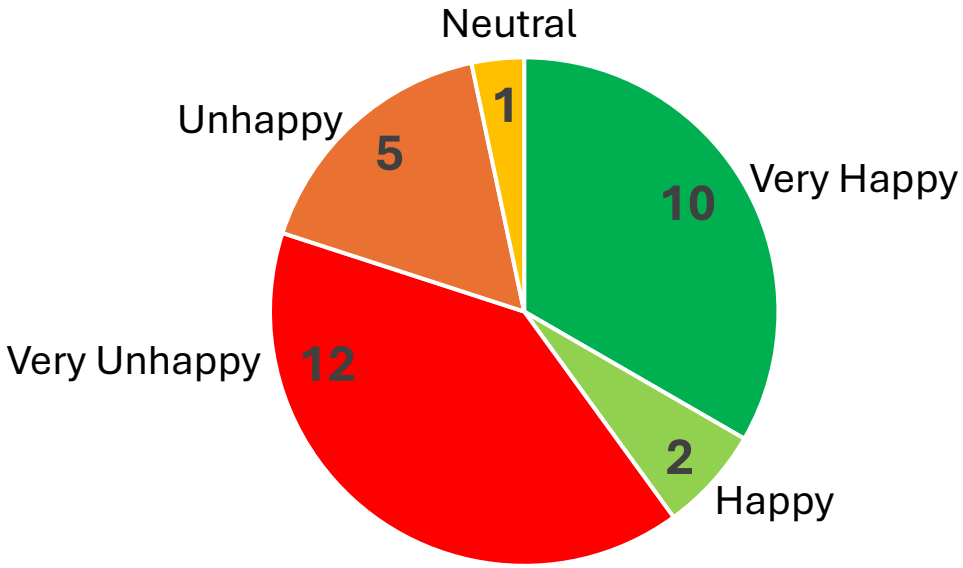
How people feel about the proposed road layout change

Overall
(43) respondents)



33%	happy or very happy
58%	unhappy or very unhappy
9%	neutral

Residents of impacted roads
(30) respondents)



40%	happy or very happy
57%	unhappy or very unhappy
3%	neutral

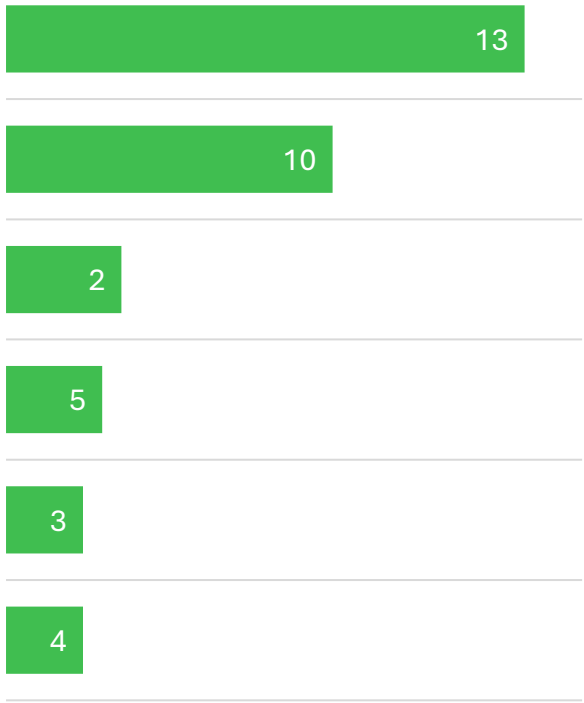
Positive Feedback

What people said they like about the proposed road layout changes

Key Positive Themes

- ✓ Strong support for improving safety for children and around schools
- ✓ General support for a wider pavement outside the school creating more space for children and families
- ✓ Support the use of bollards to prevent dangerous parking and protect children and families from cars parking on the pavement
- ✓ General approval that improvements are happening.
- ✓ Desire for safer walking and cycling routes

Number of mentions



What people told us...

Fantastic idea. It is currently too narrow and very hard to walk down without being hit by overgrown trees. It doesn't help that inconsiderate people park with two tyres up on the kerb, so you having to battle the cars too

The safety of our children should be the ultimate priority

I like that this will be part of encouraging parents/children to walk or cycle to school and not use the car.

This will help deter car use for short school drop off and pick up, which cause severe traffic in Sunbury. Also, bollards are good around busy school areas.

Key Insight

The positive comments show clear support for measures that improve safety around schools, prevent cars parking on the pavement and encourage walking and cycling over car use for shorter car journeys to school.

Objections and Concerns

What people said they did not like about the proposed scheme

Key Objection Themes*	Number of mentions
Parking loss and displacement	26
Will increase congestion	14
20mph and additional crossings are needed	8
Pavement parking will remain an issue	5
Cycle storage not required	4
Pavement does not need widening	4
General anti scheme	4

** Please see Concerns and Suggestions page for more details on these comments*

Key Insight

Most concerns were about the scheme's effectiveness, with some residents feeling that removing the parking will cause additional congestion and parking problems. Providing additional crossings and a 20mph speed limit were frequently cited as what is required at this location.

What people told us...

> No provision for alternative places to park or drop off their children. This will just displace traffic further up Nursery Road, where it is already difficult to park

> The parking and congestion along the road is bad enough, removing the parking will make it worse

> The pavement is wide enough, and widening it will be pointless as it will just exacerbate the parking problem

> I have a disabled badge and need to park close to the school. This will be taking away the little parking we already have

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Concerns & Suggestions (1/3)

Summary of concerns raised and officer responses

Concern	Officer response
The removal of the layby and parking will only cause more inconsiderate and dangerous parking	• We understand the worry that removing the layby could push unsafe parking elsewhere. However, the change is intended to stop the current acute unsafe behaviour outside the school entrance, where vehicles mount the pavement, block visibility and increase the risk of pedestrian and vehicle conflict. Widening the pavement reduces this conflict and helps create a safer, more welcoming route for children and families to walk, cycle or scoor to school. • Reducing parked, idling cars outside the school entrance is also important for child safety and air quality.
This will only cause more congestion	• The removal of the layby may also encourage more families to walk, scoot and cycle to school, as the immediate area outside the school will be safer and more pleasant. This could mean that fewer people use their cars for short journeys, which would reduce congestion.
Where am I supposed to park to drop off and pick up my children	• The scheme is designed to reduce unsafe stopping and poor parking behaviour outside the school entrance. We believe there is space in the surrounding roads for parents to park and walk a few extra minutes to the school . • We hope to encourage families that can walk to the school, to not use their car, and walk, cycle or scoot instead.
Increase the pick-up and drop-off chaos	• The changes are designed to reduce chaotic parking directly outside the school. Removing the layby prevents vehicles pulling in unpredictably or parking on the pavement, helping to create a safer and more orderly space at busy times.
Make the road too narrow for two-way flow	• The removal of the layby will not change the width of the existing two lanes on Nursery Road.

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Concerns & Suggestions (2/2)

Summary of concerns raised and officer responses

Concern	Officer Response
The cycle storage will not be used and will just reduce the width of the new widened pavement	• The removal of the layby may encourage more families to walk, scoot and cycle to school, as the immediate area outside the school will be safer and more pleasant. • **We have moved the cycle stands to the other side of the school entrance, where the existing pavement is wider and will not take space away from pedestrians or be an inconvenience for wheelchair users/ buggies**

The money for this should be spent on resurfacing or potholes instead	• It is recognised that some residents and road users would like to see additional repairs to roads in Surrey.
	• Countywide road maintenance works are funded from a different budget than the funding that has been allocated for delivering the as appropriate for scheme. These works are prioritised using a number of criteria including:
	  • Risk to the public – calculated using data such as number of insurance claims and number of small repairs carried out.
	  • Condition of road – this includes an engineer's assessment.
	  • Road priority – greater priority is given to roads with greatest usage or need. Road class (A,B C and D), speed limits and daily traffic are all factors in this.
	• This prioritisation is to ensure that roads and pavements in greatest need of treatment are addressed in a fair and consistent manner across the county. Further details of how we prioritise road resurfacing works can be found here: https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/roadworks-and-maintenance/maintenance

This does not address the problem within the whole area of Nursery Road and Lower Sunbury	• In 2025, the SCC Local Street Improvements Team carried out Engagement on proposals for Lower Sunbury to make the streets safer, healthier and more attractive with improved facilities for walking, wheeling and cycling. Following this Engagement, they are now seeking funding to move forward with the proposals. More information can be found here: Community Forum - Lower Sunbury Local Street Improvements - Commonplace
No mention of a 20mph	• A 20mph limit is being proposed for Nursery Road and other surrounding roads as part of the wider Lower Sunbury LSI project. More information can be found here: Community Forum - Lower Sunbury Local Street Improvements - Commonplace

Conclusion and Next Steps

Conclusion

Analysis of the feedback received through the Engagement shows that while many respondents welcomed the intention to improve safety outside Springfield School, the proposal **did not receive overall support** from the respondents. A significant proportion of comments expressed concerns about the potential loss of parking, the displacement of vehicles to neighbouring streets, and the risk of increased congestion around school start and finish times. These points have been addressed through the officer responses.

Despite these concerns, the engagement also highlighted clear support for the underlying aims of the scheme, with many respondents recognising that **widening the footway, preventing pavement parking, and reducing conflict between vehicles and pedestrians would improve safety for children and families** travelling to and from the school. A number of contributors also supported measures that would help to **encourage more families to walk, cycle, or scoot**, reducing reliance on cars for short journeys and helping to create a healthier and more accessible school environment.

Some respondents suggested broader measures such as, introducing School Streets, adding new pedestrian crossings, or tackling parking issues. These fall outside the scope of the current scheme, but they have been noted and can be considered through the appropriate processes or by the new unitary council of West Surrey following Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) in April 2027.

Next Steps

Taking into account both the concerns raised, and the strong safety benefits identified, the Council considers that the scheme will deliver meaningful improvements to the pedestrian environment outside the school and will support safer, more sustainable travel choices. The scheme has the support of both the county councillor and Surrey Police, and for these reasons **the decision has been taken to implement the scheme.**

The scheme is provisionally booked to be constructed during the Easter Holidays in 2026

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