

PETITION

A safer and slower Andover Road

We are appalled at the lack of action proposed by Hampshire County Council following the death of a pedestrian on Andover Road.

Local residents want to see a pedestrian crossing installed at the site, near the Halls Farm footpath, but County bosses have said that all they will do is clear vegetation and add some neon bollards.

The future of movement in the area should focus less on cars and more on active travel, using walking, cycling and longer term on public transport. The refusal to install a pedestrian controlled crossing is a clear statement from Hampshire County Council that, yet again, vehicles come before safety of pedestrians and well-being of local residents.

More than 2,000 houses are due to be built on Kings Barton and Andover Road is changing quickly from a semi-rural road to a residential road. Starting in September, more and more residents from Weeke and Harestock will be using the new Kings Barton centre and the Barton Farm Primary Academy every day. More and more residents of Kings Barton are using Henry Beaufort school and the facilities in Harestock and Weeke every day. Pedestrian traffic is increasing dramatically. We need action now to reduce speed and support the safe passage of residents between Kings Barton, Harestock and Weeke.

But all we see, with plans for works on the M3, is the situation worsening as traffic and HGVs in particular use the Andover Road to navigate road diversions. Urgent action is needed to keep us all safe and well. As a matter of priority, we call on Hampshire City Council to listen to and act on the concerns of local people by:

- 1. Installing a crossing at the site of the incident, improving walking and cycling routes, and engineering the road for safety and slower speeds**
- 2. Reducing the speed limit from 50/40mph to 30mph** – reflecting the crossing and the new residential nature of the Andover Road
- 3. Taking further measures, such as changes to crossing phasing and lighting** – to encourage HGVs to use the official diversion routes

We understand that the County Council is considering banning heavy goods vehicles and coaches from using the City Centre as a through route; this would be most helpful in reinforcing the above measures and removing the nuisance of night-time noise.

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