

PETITION TO THE COUNCIL OF BROMLEY

A title: Two zebra crossings near Crofton School, Orpington

Statement/actions we would like Council to do: Set-up two zebra crossings - one in Crofton Lane near Crofton Infant School and the second in Towncourt Lane near Crofton Junior School in Orpington

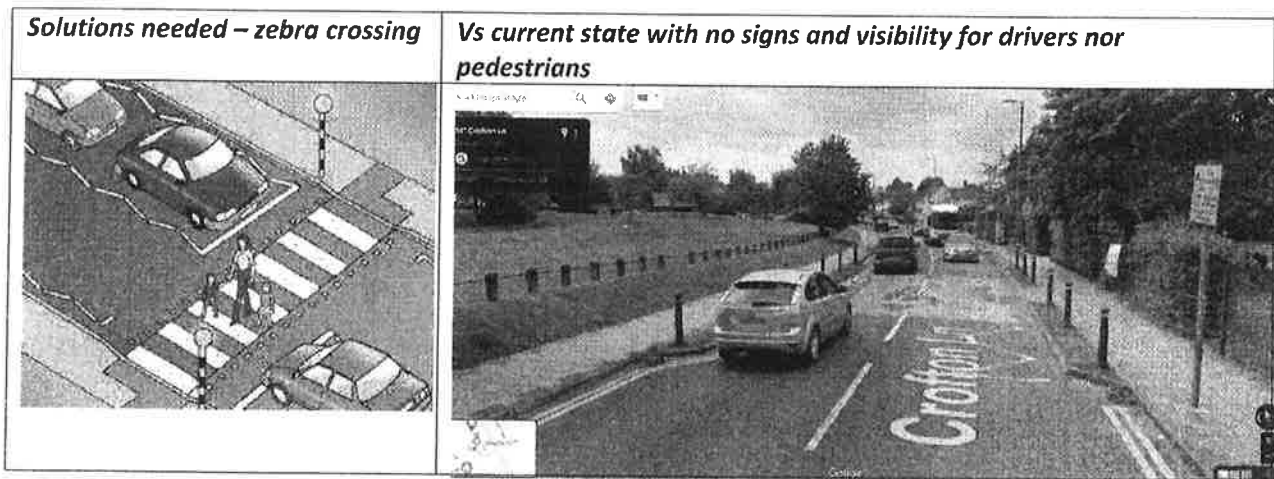
PETITION TO THE COUNCIL OF BROMLEY

Paper petition will be supported by e-petition.

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Statement/actions from the Council: Set-up two zebra crossings (*) - one in Crofton Lane near Crofton Infant School and the second in Towncourt Lane near Crofton Junior School in Orpington

(*) Zebra Crossing is marked by black and white painted strips across the road and flashing amber beacons. The Highway Code says that motorists '**must** give way when someone has moved onto a crossing'. However, pedestrians should remain on the kerbside for safety's sake until approaching vehicles have stopped.



Justification:

- **Prior petitions:** This is not a first petition in this matter, which indicates that this is not a new issue. The local community keeps on requesting for safe crossings near Crofton school, but in the past the Council has not considered the safety of the children as a priority. Also, the previous petitions have been rejected by the Council as they did not follow the correct format. We hope that this time the Council will make a decision that is best for over 1,000 children crossing the street every day, and that the voices of their parents and carers will be heard, before a serious accident occurs. We also hope that this will be considered without any political angle, but from a perspective of what is best for the children.
- **Crofton is one of the largest schools in Bromley, with heavy traffic in the area, but no safe crossings.** Over 1,000 children attend the school - about 540 in Infant Crofton School and about 720 in Junior Crofton School. Some Children start school at 7:30am in the Breakfast Club, others at 9:30am in the classroom. Children end school at 3:30pm or between 5:00pm and 6:30pm in the Afternoon Club. Hence often it is still dark when crossing the street. Currently the place to cross the street in front of the entrance to Breakfast and Afternoon school club in Crofton Lane is not marked and does not provide visibility or safety for pedestrians (mainly children with parents and carers) and does not alert the drivers as it is simply not visible, but also does not require the drivers to give priority to pedestrians. In front of the entrance in Towncourt Lane there is even no crossing. There is heavy traffic area in the morning and in the evening.

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- Lack of safety:** Due to no proper crossing, some drivers either do not see that this is a spot where pedestrians will cross, or they do not feel obliged to stop given no requirement. Parents with children who are trying to cross the road either on a good sunny day or a rainy dark morning or evening (given hours mentioned above) are often ignored by the drivers as some drivers will allow pedestrians to cross, but most of the others don't and this unfortunately will either cause accidents or we will be honked at. Situation is dramatic as also riskier cases that occur are when one driver stops on the right, but the other on the left does not. Parents often holding hands of two children or also pushing a buggy must wave at the drivers and risk safety of their children. Additionally, in Towncourt Lane parent have no place to cross from / to bus stop that is opposite the Junior school. Stopping vehicles to allow pedestrians to cross at the proposed zebra crossings will create a safer environment for all road users as drivers will have clear rules to follow thanks to the flashing amber beacons and the "human judgement and willingness" elements will be eliminated which in fact are the riskiest factors.
- Prior incidents.** At this point we have six cases of casualties with involvement of adult pedestrians from last three years, but this includes Covid-19 period (lockdowns), and evidence from a longer period has been requested from the Police and will be supplemented once available.

Date	The Council of	Council Area	Council Ward	Event Name	County	Event Date	Event Time	Event Location	Event Type	Event Status	Event Category	Event Description	Event Outcome
17/05/2021	2654	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028
15/05/2021	1610	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028
17/05/2021	0700	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028
17/05/2021	1600	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028
01/05/2021	0110	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028
25/05/2021	1000	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028	0110331028

- Proposed solution involves relatively low and only a one-time cost, but it would provide increased safety for over one thousand children for years.** We understand that managing budgets is a focus for the Council. However, two Zebra crossings which we are proposing are cheaper to build than traffic signal-controlled crossings, hence it is not the most expensive solution. Also, a cost of zebra crossing given its one-time nature is lower than total cost of the lollipop patrols that would need to be paid every year. Furthermore, Bromley borough is one of the largest and in the top of 25 local authorities in the UK with most of high earning residents, which may indicate that a cost of two zebra-crossings would not create constraints in the budget, and local community representing 1,000 children every year would like to see that the council tax addresses their needs.

Contacts for this petition:

Guidance - who can sign a petition: A petition can be signed by a person of any age who lives, works or studies in Bromley. All petitioners should provide as appropriate their home, work or education establishment address. You can only sign a petition once; the list of signatories will be checked by officers and any duplicate signatures or obviously frivolous responses will be discounted.