24 May 2004

## Highways and Engineering

Council Offices Faraday Road Newbury Berkshire RG14 2AF

Our Ref: MCE/sc/32255/TMB4009 Your Ref: Please ask for: Mark Edwards Direct Line: 01635 519208 Fax: 01635 519865 e-mail: medwards@westberks.gov.uk

Dear

Road Safety - B4009

Thank you for taking the trouble to either write or return a completed questionnaire to Mrs Desert recently regarding road safety issues on the B4009.

I have read all the comments made by local residents on the survey forms and it certainly makes very interesting, if not worrying, reading. One of your neighbours makes the point that 'there are no dangerous roads, only dangerous drivers.' This is a very pertinent point because there are speed limits throughout this stretch of road and as far as I am aware all of the incidents reported have involved vehicles allegedly travelling at inappropriate speeds or attempting dangerous overtaking manoeuvres. It would therefore appear that enforcement may be a key issue rather than the introduction of any physical measures to reduce speeds.

Having said that, I am pleased to confirm that this stretch of the B4009 is included in our Road Safety Programme for 2004/05 and so later this year we will be undertaking a detailed investigation into the causes of the incidents that have taken place. This may well result in the introduction of measures such as double white lines and improved signing but I will ensure that you are kept fully advised of progress in this respect.

An initial response to Mrs Desert's petition letter will be provided at the next meeting of the Council's Executive on 17 June 2004, although we will not be in a position to provide any further details then as the detailed investigation work will not be completed at that point.

Thank you again for your comments. I will be in touch as soon as I have anything further to report.

Yours sincerely

Mark Edwards Head of Highways and Engineering