

Neighbourhood and Commercial

Strategic Director: Michele Moloney

15 October 2018

Dear Resident / Business owner,

RE: Leyton Town Centre scheme update

In January 2016, we carried out a public consultation with the local community on our plans for the Leyton Town Centre scheme. Thank you to everyone who took part in the consultation and provided feedback on the proposals.

The aim of the scheme is to make roads safer and easier to navigate for all road users and to better connect the borough, making it easier for people who choose to walk and cycle for local journeys.

In summary 334 people responded to the consultation providing 828 individual comments. Overall 52 per cent of respondents were supportive of the proposals, 34 per cent were neutral and 14 per cent were not supportive of the proposals.

The final scheme

Feedback from the local community has been valuable in helping us to finalise some of the proposals we consulted on, as well as raising key areas where changes could be improved. Based on the feedback received as part of the consultation some proposals have taken longer to develop and finalise than others, which is why we have been introducing the scheme in phases over the last 18 months. This has also helped us minimise disruption in the area and ensure construction works are coordinated with other key projects taking place, such as on nearby Lea Bridge Road.

The final phase of the Leyton Town Centre scheme that will now be progressed is outlined below:

Traffic reduction measures (Area bounded by Lea Bridge Road, High Road Leyton and Church Road)

We want to reduce the amount of non-local motorised traffic using the residential roads between Lea Bridge Road, High Road Leyton and Church Road. Reducing this traffic will help to improve road safety, reduce noise outside people's homes, encourage and support walking and cycling for shorter local journeys and generally improve the look and feel of the area so that it is a more enjoyable place to be.

In order to reduce the amount of traffic using these roads a number of modal filters (road closures to motorised traffic) and one-way changes were proposed as part of the consultation in 2016. This will discourage non-local traffic from 'cutting through' residential streets whilst allowing people who walk and cycle to get about safely and easily. Emergency services, deliveries and refuse collections will still be able to access these roads .

In summary 49 per cent of respondents to this section of the consultation were in favour, 36% neutral and 15% were not supportive of the proposals of traffic reduction put forward in this area. A number of

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specific comments and issues were raised during the consultation process and where possible we have taken these on board when developing the final proposals as set out below.

Modal filters (Road closures to motorised traffic)

As part of the consultation we proposed to install modal filters in Grange Park Road (just north of the junction with Church Road), Farmer Road and Brewster Road. We also proposed a diagonal modal filter at the junction of Capworth Street and Vicarage Road. The diagonal modal filter means that vehicles would no longer be able to drive across this junction east to west or west to east (between Church Road and High Road Leyton) along Capworth Street, or north to south (from Lea Bridge Road to High Road Leyton) along Vicarage Road. Only people walking or cycling could continue to cross the junction in these directions.

In response to consultation feedback we intend to proceed with the planned modal filters in Farmer Road, Brewster Road and at the Capworth Street/Vicarage Road junction. We also intend to install an additional modal filter in Clyde Place by the junction with Sophia Road following the request from local residents. This additional filter is required in order to stop traffic displacing onto neighbouring residential streets as a result of the diagonal filter at the Capworth Street/Vicarage Road junction.

At this stage we do not intend to proceed with the modal filter in Grange Park Road. We have recently collected traffic data for the area which indicates that vehicle numbers on Grange Park Road are very low, and we do not feel this will change significantly once the other measures are introduced.

However we will be monitoring traffic levels in the area as the works take place and we will review the case for introducing the Grange Park Road modal filter once the other works are complete.

One-way Streets

During the public consultation we proposed to make Capworth Street one-way eastbound (toward High Road Leyton) between Vicarage Road and Whitney Road. This change is required to ensure the Capworth Street/Vicarage Road modal filter works effectively.

In order to strike a balance between traffic reduction and resident access we have developed a proposal to change Manor Road between Lea Bridge Road and Malta Road from one-way northbound (towards Lea Bridge Road) to one-way southbound (away from Lea Bridge Road). However it will not be introducing this change until the other measures are implemented, as we want to review this impact that these have before making a final decision whether to proceed with this additional change or not.

Please refer to the proposals plan in the link below, which shows the proposed measures outlined above: <https://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/180921-Leyton-Phase-9-Cartoon-Plan.pdf>

Construction programme

Construction of these proposals will start in November 2018 and will take around 4 to 6 months to complete. We will be completing the works in phases and residents and businesses directly affected by the works closest to them will receive a letter with more information when work is due to take place. Our contractors will be working to keep disruption to a minimum.

If you have any questions relating to the scheme or if you would like more information on the improvements taking place across the borough visit www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk, email enjoy@walthamforest.gov.uk or call 020 8496 3000.

Best wishes,



Vala Valavan
Director of Highways and Traffic Management