

Dear Resident or Business Owner / Manager

26 February 2015

Ref: Southwark to Canada Water Quietway - proposed closure of Newcomen Street (from Borough High Street junction to the access to the estate parking for Betsham House residents, west of Tennis Street junction)

Quietways form part of the Mayor's vision for cycling in London launched in 2013. These are a network of direct, continuous and safe routes on quiet streets and are aimed at novice cyclists and getting the general public to cycle more. The Link to the Mayor's Vision is below:
<http://www.london.gov.uk/priorities/transport/publications/mayor-s-vision-for-cycling>

A "Southwark to Canada Water" Quietway which follows roughly the Jubilee line spans from Meymott Street at the borough boundary with Lambeth to Hothfields Place traversing Newcomen Street is being proposed. Additional information on the Quietway including route alignment can be found on the Council's website
(http://www.southwark.gov.uk/info/200123/cycling/447/cycle_routes).

Newcomen Street currently endures a high traffic flow most of which is through traffic. Sections of the carriageway along Newcomen Street are very narrow forcing Large Goods Vehicles (LGVs) to overrun the narrow footways putting them in conflict with pedestrians. Cyclists are also not allowed to travel contra-flow to westbound traffic making this section of the public highway impermeable for cyclists travelling in the eastbound direction.

In view of above concerns and in line with the Mayor's vision, the council is considering a proposal for Newcomen Street to be closed to motorised traffic from its junction with Borough High Street to the access to the estate parking for Betsham House residents east of Tennis Street junction, and made two way for pedal cycles. The proposed traffic management for Newcomen Street is shown on the attached plan. Appropriate measures would be put in place to manage deliveries to businesses.

This letter does not constitute a formal consultation; this is a preliminary step to understand your initial views and needs before proceeding to consultation. It is important to us that the proposed closure causes no unnecessary disruption to your daily routine. For this reason, we would like to know what your needs are so that these can be addressed in our proposal. All responses should be sent to Razak.mahama@southwark.gov.uk. We would very much like to hear from you by 20 March 2015.

Also in the very near future Officers from Southwark's Environment and Leisure department will be visiting residents and businesses within the proposed closure area to discuss any concerns you may have. If you would like to discuss the proposal directly please do contact me and arrange a meeting.

To ensure stakeholders' involvement in the design process, we have also developed an Interactive Map to help capture issues and public aspirations along the route. Issues and aspirations identified along the route will feed into the outline design to be shared with the public through the Interactive Map tool when they become available. A link to map is below – I would encourage you to make use of it.

<http://www.sdgdigital.co.uk/sites/southwarkquietways/>

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Razak Mahama".

Razak Mahama (*Senior Engineer*)

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