

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 19 May 2020	<b>Decision Maker:</b> Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency
<b>Report title:</b>		Wood Vale Highway Improvements	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		Dulwich Wood and Dulwich Hill	
<b>From:</b>		Strategic Director of Environment and Leisure	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency approve the proposed highway improvements in Wood Vale (west) for implementation, as shown in the draft outline design (Appendix A), subject to the necessary statutory procedures.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. Wood Vale is a busy residential road which links the A205 Lordship Lane/London Road with Forest Hill Road (B238). The road spans both Dulwich Wood and Dulwich Hill wards and the borough boundary with Lewisham.
3. These proposals (shown in Appendix A) focus on the westernmost section of Wood Vale, i.e, between its junctions with Langton Rise to the north and Lordship Lane/London Road to the south.
4. The proposed highway improvements have been approved by various key stakeholder groups including the London Borough of Lewisham, Emergency services and local bus operators.
5. Consultation with residents living in this section of Wood Vale was undertaken to establish the level of support for these proposals and to ask residents for any further suggestions on how traffic movement in the area could be improved.
6. Councillors from both effected wards have been involved in the development of these proposals and are aware of them
7. This report draws upon the detailed analysis of the consultation report (Appendix B), government legislation, council policy, cycling, walking and motoring experiences and also financial considerations.
8. Below is a summary of the proposed improvements to Wood Vale (west):
  - New raised tables at 4 locations which will help to slow traffic and aid pedestrian movement.
  - The replacement of existing speed cushions with speed humps in order to slow traffic more effectively.
  - The removal of existing traffic islands – to be replaced with raised tables.

- The introduction of priority working at 2 locations to discourage through traffic from using this section of Wood Vale in order to access the South Circular/Lordship Lane.
- Footway refurbishment on both sides of the road in order to facilitate pedestrian movement.

## **KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **Summary of consultation process and findings**

9. Public consultation took place between 5 November and 3 December 2019.
10. Letters were sent to all addresses in the affected section of Wood Vale advising that comments on proposals could be submitted via the Council's consultation portal. This public consultation yielded 70 online responses. The vast majority of those who responded were residents of the street and were a mixture of motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.
11. Ward members were consulted prior to the consultation and emailed for comments on the consultation outcome in early 2020.
12. Key stakeholders such as the London Borough of Lewisham and the emergency services were consulted during public consultation.
13. Analysis of the responses shows that the majority of those who responded were in favour of the proposals. Further details can be found in the consultation report (Appendix B) and in the additional comments (Appendix C).

### **Design changes based on consultation responses**

14. The majority of the proposed interventions received a positive response and thus it is not considered necessary to make any design amendments. Officers may need to make minor changes subject to the outcome of the Road Safety Audit conducted in the next design stage, this will not require further decision making.

### **Policy implications**

15. The recommendations contained within this report are consistent with the Missions of the Movement Plan 2019, particularly:
  - a) M2 Action 2 – Create simple and clear streets
  - b) M4 Action 8 – Use kerbside efficiently and promote less polluting vehicles
  - c) M4 Action 9 – Manage traffic to reduce the demand on our streets
  - d) M7 Action 15 – Reduced exposure to air pollution

### **Community impact statement**

16. The implementation of any transport project creates a range of community impacts. All transport schemes aim to improve the safety and security of vulnerable groups and support economic development by improving the overall transport system and access to it.

17. There is a risk that interventions such as the introduction of priority workings could pose a risk for cyclists. This will be identified and adjusted as part of the road safety audit. However this cannot be entirely pre-empted until the recommendations have been implemented and observed.
18. With the exception of those benefits and risks identified above, the recommendations are not considered to have a disproportionate affect on any particular community group.
19. The recommendations support the council's equalities and human rights policies and promote social inclusion by:
  - a. Improving road safety, in particular for vulnerable road users including pedestrians and cyclists, on the public highway.
  - b. Improving existing shared use facilities by improving road surface, road markings, and signage.
  - c. Improving existing pedestrian and cycle facilities by improving surfaces, road markings, and signage.

### **Resource implications**

20. It is estimated that the delivery of this scheme will cost £270k. This will be partly funded by Non principal road footways, Non principal carriageways and a Cleaner, Greener Safer award of £30,000.

### **SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS**

#### **Director of Legal Services**

21. The Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency is asked to approve the proposed highway improvements in Wood Vale (west) for implementation, which are summarized in paragraph 8 and shown in the draft outline design in Appendix A, subject to the necessary statutory procedures.
22. The report summarises the public consultation which has taken place with residents of the Wood Vale (west) area, stakeholders and ward councillors regarding the proposed highways improvements, as detailed in the consultation report and additional comments in the appendices to this report.
  - i. The proposed highway improvements will be implemented in accordance with powers to construct traffic calming works under the Highways Act 1980.
  - ii. The Equality Act 2010 introduced the public sector equality duty, which merged existing race, sex and disability equality duties and extended them to include other protected characteristics; namely age, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, religion and belief and sex and sexual orientation, including marriage and civil partnership. In summary those subject to the equality duty, which includes the Council, must in the exercise of their functions:
    - (i) have due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation; and

- (ii) foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

23. Bearing these considerations in mind, the report confirms that the implementation of the highway improvements in Wood Vale (West) are not considered to have a disproportionate affect on any particular community individual or group and therefore the proposals do not affect persons with shared protected characteristics. However it is for the decision maker to be satisfied that the equality duty has been met.
24. The Human Rights Act 1998 imposed a duty on the Council as a public authority to apply the European Convention on Human Rights; as a result the Council must not act in a way which is incompatible with these rights. The most important rights for highway and planning purposes are Article 8 (respect for homes); Article 6 (natural justice) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (peaceful enjoyment of property). The implementation of these proposals is not anticipated to breach any of the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998.

**Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (EL19/091)**

25. This report requests approval of the proposed highway improvements in Wood Vale from the Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport and the Climate Emergency.
26. The strategic director of finance and governance notes the funding for the proposal is to be met from Non Principal Roads Footway and Carriageway capital budgets and Cleaner, Greener Safer funding of £30k.
27. Staffing and any other costs connected with these recommendations to be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Movement Plan 2019	Southwark Council Environment and Leisure Highways 160 Tooley Street London SE1 2QH	Joanna Redshaw (020 7525 2665)

**APPENDICES**

No.	Title
Appendix A	Outline design drawings
Appendix B	Consultation summary report and appendix
Appendix C	Additional comments

## AUDIT TRAIL

<b>Lead Officer</b>	Dale Foden, Head of Highways (Acting)	
<b>Report Authors</b>	James Price, Project Manager CGS and Joanna Redshaw, Project Manager Transport Projects	
<b>Version</b>	Final	
<b>Dated</b>	19 May 2020	
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments Included</b>
Director of Legal Services	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	Yes	Yes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	No	No
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team/</b>	19 May 2020	