



Report for:	West Green and Bruce Grove Area Committee	Item number	
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Title:	<i>The Chair's response to Agenda items put forward to the Area Forum and Committee meeting</i>
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Report authorised by :	
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Lead Officer:	Ayshe Simsek
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Ward(s) affected:	Report for Key/Non Key Decision: N/A
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1. Describe the issue under consideration

To provide feedback on the requested agenda items explain how they have been taken forward.

2. Background

At the first Area Forum and Committee ward members talked about the aims of the Forum and committee which included working with local people to improve the neighbourhood for all residents.

The area committees have additional powers to shape aspects of local services in response to local conditions and residents' concerns. A local area plan for the West Green and Bruce Grove has now been completed and will be guiding future council activities, local budgets and planning decisions in the area. The plan will now also help shape the agenda for forthcoming Forum and committee meetings.

Meetings start with an open public forum followed by a decision-making session of the Committee that is open to the public.



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The Forum is also about shaping aspects of local services in response to local conditions and residents concerns allows opportunities for local residents to ask questions of local councillors and council officials, to make suggestions and raise issues of concern, as well as to network with other local residents, traders and activists.

Suggestions for topics at this meeting were sought from local residents and community groups to enable the agenda to be driven as far as possible by local people.

The following suggested items did not make the Forum meeting as information related to specific incidences and issues and it was felt that personal consideration and response from the Chair to these issues was better suited. Details are included on how the Chair has taken forward the issues raised with some recommendations for the Committee to also consider.

Higham Road right-angle bends in Higham Road near the junction with Downhills Park Road. - Accident hotspot

Residents living near the junction between Higham Road and Downhills Park Road N17 had expressed concerns to local ward councillors about the number of car accidents taking place at this junction. These accidents had so far been non fatal but have caused regular damage to resident's front gardens. This junction has a narrow bend and there are usually cars parked on each side of the junction. This makes it is quite difficult for cars and the W4 bus route to turn right from Higham Road onto Downhills way. This is exacerbated in the winter when road conditions deteriorate. Some photographic evidence was provided to councillors illustrating road signs and front garden walls being knocked down by cars and there was concern about the safety of pedestrians on this part of the road.

A response was provided from the Transport Team to concerned residents and ward councillors that included information about: the funding approach to investigating transport related issues, the need to have recorded police data on accidents at this junction to make a case for road improvements, commitment to checking for any illegally parked cars at this junction, assurance that this road is priority for gritting in winter. Since the response the Sustainable Transport group have also arranged for the bend warning signs and SLOW road markings to be introduced.

In relation to the W4 bus route passing through this tight junction, the Council has regular meetings with TfL on public transport issues including bus service planning. In addition to regular meetings the council can and do raise specific issues on bus service routeing, level of service and other ad hoc issues raised by councillors or members of the public. Generally bus service contracts run for



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three years and it is unlikely wide ranging changes to routeing or service levels would be considered outside of this process. TfL consult the Council as part of the reviews of bus services and for specific service changes such as frequency and destination. Transport team will consult ward councillors on proposed changes as part of this process. Any suggested change to a bus route would need to be considered by TfL and they would take into account factors such as the impact on through passengers and costs and benefits. Given the current constrained funding at TfL it is unlikely that TfL would support a route change without clear benefits.

The Area Committee are able to recommend road improvement schemes for consideration in the work plan of the Sustainable Transport group. The Committee would need to keep in mind that the work programme for road improvements in 2012/13 has been agreed by Cabinet and any additions to the work programme would need to be counteracted with the withdrawal of another scheme. Any changes would also need to be agreed with by the Cabinet Member for Environment.

Young People involved in the Community

An item was put forward on how the community can encourage young people to become more involved in their neighbourhood and put forward good suggestions. This issue was due to be taken forward in the first item by the Broadwater Farm Resident's Association who would be reporting back on their engagement with young people on the Farm.

Junction between Tottenham High Road and Bruce Grove Station

At the end of the last meeting in January, some residents expressed concern about the safety of the junction between Tottenham High Road and Bruce Grove station for pedestrians. They asked that this issue be considered as an agenda item at the meeting on the 23 April 2012. The Chair asked for this to be investigated before this meeting. The Town Centre Manager for Tottenham High Road has visited this junction and completed observations on: the frequency of the traffic light changes, the actions of pedestrians at the crossings and the movement of traffic at this junction. He is in agreement that the Council and TFL should work together to upgrade current Health & Safety traffic management on this part of the High Road. TFL have a good track record on working with LBH on High Rd issues. This issue has now been elevated to the Head of Neighbourhood services to take forward with Transport for London. An update can be provided on the Council's progress with TFL at the next meeting of the Area Committee in June 2012.

3. Recommendations



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- 3.1 The committee to decide if Higham Road N17 should be investigated further and be considered for inclusion in the work programme of the Sustainable Transport group for 2012/13.

- 3.2 That there is a report back to the next committee on the actions taken to address health and safety issues at the junction between Bruce Grove and Tottenham High Road.

4. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

N/A