

Area Committee Report: Highways, Parking and Transportation issues in the Alexandra, Fortis Green, Highgate and Muswell Hill Area.

1.0 Background

1.1 At the 27 June Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate Area Committee a report was presented by the Chair highlighting issues raised over the years by the community and Ward Councillors. The Committee requested the Council to identify as many schemes as possible that could be progressed. See appendix 1 for a copy of the report.

1.2 The chair requested an officer to report back to the 13 September Area Committee

2.0 Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding

2.1 LIP funding is provided by Transport for London (TfL) and in recent years they have changed the way in which funding is allocated. We are now required to submit a three year Delivery Plan and TfL confirm the level of funding that will be made available during this period. This enables boroughs to develop more detailed programmes that can be delivered over the three year period. The current plan runs from April 2011 to March 2014 and sets out our priorities for this period. We are still however required to submit confirmation of our yearly programme to TfL on a yearly basis. A report is being presented to Cabinet on 18 September setting out the proposals for the next year of LIP schemes (2013/14).

2.2 This new format provides boroughs with greater control in choosing their priorities, as opposed to allocating funding to specific programmes such as, 20mph Zones, Local Safety Schemes, Cycling, Walking, and Safer Routes to Schools etc. Greater emphasis is now given to looking holistically at areas to develop packages of measures to address various identified traffic and transport issues. Our 'Corridors' and 'Neighbourhoods' programmes, where the Corridor is the main road through an area and the Neighbourhood is the residential area, is focused on this approach. We have developed a way of prioritising the selection of neighbourhoods in need, by carrying out an assessment using a number of factors including walking routes, cycling routes, road casualties, defined employment areas, town centres and regeneration areas. Currently we are delivering "Community Streets" projects in the Hornsey Heart and Green Lanes, Harringay neighbourhoods.

- 2.3 We also have a Smarter Travel programme aimed at encouraging sustainable travel and road safety through education, promotion and travel planning. Our Neighbourhoods programme works in tandem with the Smarter Travel programme to ensure that measures delivered have benefits to encourage and promote sustainable travel.
- 2.4 We do however acknowledge the importance of road safety and the need to improve perceived as well as identified accident locations. We therefore allocate a small budget through the LIP and internal Council funding for our Local Safety Schemes programme. This budget is mainly prioritised to reducing actual personal injury accidents and is measured against their economic benefit calculated from a first year rate of return in accident savings to justify the expenditure of the scheme. Each year we undertake an assessment of the road traffic accidents in the Borough that have occurred over the preceding three years period. From this we identify a prioritised list of locations based on accident severity and frequency. The list is refined to take into consideration the funding available as well as locations that have received funding within the past three years and those locations that form part of other programmes. This is then presented to the Cabinet Member for the Environment for approval on a yearly basis.
- 2.5 A small amount of our Local Safety Schemes budget is however also utilised to addressing perceived accident locations to assist in encouraging sustainable travel, particularly in the vicinity of schools. As this budget is limited we cannot address all the issues identified from the public or Ward Councillors. We do however keep a record of all requests made and review them each year to prioritise what can be delivered through the available budget.
- 2.6 Consultation for the development of the 2014 -17 Delivery Plan will commence in April 2013 for submission in September 2013. The various Area Committees will have the opportunity to identify their priorities for consideration based on the list of issues identified through the recently submitted Area Based Plans.

3.0 Officers response to the issues highlighted

- 3.1 Please see table below providing officer's responses to the issues highlighted in the presented report.

WARD	ISSUE	GROUP	ACTION
<p>Alexandra</p>	<p>Redesign of road infrastructure or ban on long/large lorries at the factory entrance next to the Sweet Tree Bakery in Palace Gates Road.</p> <p>Over time, the lorries using the factory entrance have got bigger and bigger, and it is now commonplace, when one is entering or exiting the factory, for the 184 bus route to be impeded for up to about 20 minutes. The raised flower beds at this location are also being regularly damaged.</p> <p>Cllr Solomon</p>	<p>Transportation Planning</p> <p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>The existing factory has been operating from Palace Gates Road for a number of years and the Council has no legal powers to force them to regulate the size of vehicle accessing the factory, unless they apply for a change of use of premises. There is an existing HGV ban on this road but access is still permitted.</p> <p>Access to the factory yard has been redesigned as part of the A406 Complementary programme to enable large vehicles to reverse into the factory yard and therefore reduce congestion at this location.</p> <p>Has not been included in next year's LIP submission. We can however consider the introduction of waiting restrictions opposite the entrance to improve access and therefore further reduce any congestion experienced.</p>
	<p>Vehicles rat-running through Bidwell Gardens N11 area.</p> <p>There are still problems with rat-running in the Bidwell Gardens area and further needs to be done to resolve this.</p> <p>Cllr Solomon</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>As part of the A406 Complementary programme, officers facilitated focus group meetings, attended by local representatives over a period of 18 months, to develop proposals for the Bidwell Gardens area. Two options were presented for consultation with the wider community. The option of timed 'no entry' points, which would have</p>

			addressed peak time through route issues was not supported. Instead, the introduction of a 20mph zone with associated traffic calming measures was the preferred choice. Officers clearly stated at the time of consultation that this option would not sufficiently address through route issues, and as there was limited support for more effective measures, further changes in this area would be regarded as a low priority.
Alexandra/ Fortis Green	<p>Traffic Lights on Colney Hatch Lane N10 at the junctions with Alexandra Park Road and Pages Lane</p> <p>The traffic lights need to be reviewed as there are often long tail-backs at all junctions which then impacts on the times of buses using Colney Hatch Lane, Alexandra Park Road and Pages Lane. Pedestrian safety is also an issue.</p> <p>Cllr Solomon and Cllr Newton</p>	<p>Transportation Planning</p> <p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>Officers will request TfL to review the existing operation of the junction to consider if further improvements can be made. London Buses will also be consulted to obtain their views on the impact to bus journey times.</p> <p>Studies and junction modelling will be required to determine the optimum layout for the two junctions although no funding is currently available for this.</p> <p>This issue can be listed for consideration as a Corridor scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.</p>
Fortis Green	<p>Parking Aylmer Parade</p> <p>Parking provision for the businesses in Aylmer Parade N2 including visitor parking and loading.</p>	<p>Traffic Management</p>	<p>Consultation was undertaken in June/July for the proposed introduction of stop and shop parking facilities along Alymer Parade. The feedback was inconclusive and officers</p>

	<p>Help is well overdue especially as Traders were told in 2010 that a Stop-and-Stop scheme was due to be installed but nothing was done.</p> <p>Cllr Newton</p>		<p>will now arrange a meeting with the Ward Councillors and Cabinet Member to agree a way forward. Funding is available this year to deliver any agreed measures.</p>
	<p>Street lighting – Coldfall Estate N10 Renewal of poor and insufficient Street lighting for Coldfall Estate N10.</p> <p>Cllr Newton</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>Funding for the replacement of our street lighting stock is provided annually through internal Capital. The level of funding dictates what amount of lamp columns can be replaced each year. The lamp columns on this estate are cast iron and is accepted that they need replacement but this is subject to funding.</p>
	<p>Highway Resurfacing Resurfacing Fortis Green N2 (the road) between Denmark Terrace and the borough boundary at Springcroft Avenue. Originally due to be resurfaced c.2006 as the riding carriage surface had deteriorated to such an extent that it was impacting on all transport users including cyclists – it still is!</p> <p>Long standing resident and member enquiries from Cllr Newton</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>Fortis Green Road is part of the Principle Road Network and as such resurfacing of the road is funded by TfL through the LIP. This road will be programmed for resurfacing in 2013/14.</p>
	<p>Road Safety and Traffic Calming Traffic calming measures in Greenham Road N10 which is a narrow residential road with limited passing places so vehicles tend to speed.</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>Our Local Safety Schemes programme is primarily related to reducing personal injury accidents (PIAs) as held on TfLs accident data base. Greenham Road does not meet the criteria for inclusion in this programme</p>

	Cllr Newton		<p>on accident grounds.</p> <p>It will however be held on record for future year's consideration should funding be available.</p>
Highgate	<p>North Hill/Church Road/View Road Crossing To include a pedestrian phase at this very well used junction by Doctors' surgery.</p> <p>Cllr Rachel Allison</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>TfL have carried out an initial assessment of this junction and identified that three of the four arms could be considered for a dedicated pedestrian phase. This will however require modelling to determine the impact on the junction for which currently no funding is available..</p> <p>This issue can be listed for consideration as a Corridor scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.</p>
	<p>Speeding on North Hill Raised via ward panel and Leo Kearse at Haringey in January 2010. Again with SNT in April 2011 who asked that Highways use speed gun.</p>	Smarter Travel	<p>The Council has provided the SNTs with 4 speed guns to enable them to carry out speed enforcement exercises. Our Smarter Travel Team will liaise with the SNT and local schools to see if a joint initiative can be arranged to make motorists aware of the implications of speeding.</p>
	<p>North Hill railings Picking up on issue from 2007 earlier this year. Repair and repainting of 100m+ of Victorian railings.</p>	Structures	<p>Our Structures Team are in the process of bidding for funding to carry out an assessment of the retaining wall in 2013/14. The painting of the railings will form part of future repairs to the retaining wall if funding</p>

			is provided.
	Replacement street lighting – Miltons January 2010 LBH 73103	Sustainable Transport	Funding for the replacement of our street lighting stock is provided annually through internal Capital. The level of funding dictates what amount of lamp columns can be replaced each year. The lamp columns on this estate are cast iron and is accepted that they need replacement but this is subject to funding.
	Removal of excess street furniture – Miltons Cllr Bob Hare to advise	Sustainable Transport	Further information is required to confirm what action is being requested. Officers from Sustainable Transport can meet on site with Cllr Hare to review this request. This will then need to be considered a Committee priority for consideration when developing the next Delivery Plan as no funding is currently available.
	Street lighting – Hillside Gardens 20th April 2012 raised direct with Steve Lain tried to include at end of year – possible inclusion this year.	Sustainable Transport	Funding for the replacement of our street lighting stock is provided annually through internal Capital. The level of funding dictates what amount of lamp columns can be replaced each year. The lamp columns on this road are cast iron and is accepted that they need replacement but this is subject to funding.
	Bulging churchyard wall at junction of Southwood Lane and Highgate High Street	Structures	Our Structures Team have carried out an initial assessment of the wall and confirmed that a sycamore tree growing close to the wall is gradually pushing the wall onto the

			<p>public highway and needs to be removed. We are awaiting confirmation of costs of emergency works before deciding on how to proceed. The height of the wall also needs to be reduced in consultation with English Heritage.</p> <p>Any identified measures will need to be funded by the Council through our Structures programme and priorities are under consideration at the current time.</p>
	<p>Resurfacing Langdon Park Road January 2010 (pothole survey)</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>This road is not considered a priority for planned maintenance as it is deemed to be in a serviceable condition. Reactive repairs will be made at locations where potholes are above our intervention levels.</p>
	<p>Proper repairs on Jacksons Lane (cobble) on-going</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>The council recently considered the removal of the cobbled sections along Jackson's Lane as part of proposals to improve conditions for cyclists. This was not however supported by residents through consultation who would prefer some form of traffic calming measures along Jackson's Lane. Speed surveys did not identify excessive speed issues.</p> <p>Haringey Cycle Campaign confirmed that they did not regard this as a priority. No further action is planned.</p>
	<p>Information about accidents on Archway Road</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>Please see Appendix 2 for a plan of collisions along this road. The information is</p>

	Have tried via SNT. Could Highways help?		provided by Transport for London.
Muswell Hill	<p>Summerland Gardens car park behind M&S</p> <p>Two-way entry and exit from the car park via Summerland Gardens onto Muswell Hill Broadway together with removing the exit to Hillfield Park.</p> <p>Cllr Engert and Cllr Newton</p>	Traffic Management	<p>Summerland Car Park was upgraded in 2010. Any the time consideration was given to providing two-way working from Summerland Gardens. This was not however considered feasible in view of the steep gradient, sightlines and narrow carriageway width that could be provided. Improvements have however been made to both the entrance and exit points as part of the upgrade.</p> <p>No further action proposed.</p>
	<p>Traffic Issues in St James's Lane N10 and surrounding area</p> <p>Solutions to acute traffic problems including from vehicles exiting from Summerland Gardens car park through the surrounding narrow residential roads, large HGVs using these unsuitable roads with many of them getting stuck, aggressive and dangerous driver behaviour caused by the inability for cars going different ways to pass each.</p> <p>Cllr Engert and Cllr Newton</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>This issue can be listed for consideration as a Neighbourhood scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.</p>

	<p>Street lighting – St James's Lane area N10 Renewal of Street lighting for St James's Lane, Hillfield Park, Muswell Hill Place and Alexandra Gardens</p> <p>Cllr Engert</p>	Sustainable Transport	Funding for the replacement of our street lighting stock is provided annually through internal Capital. The level of funding dictates what amount of lamp columns can be replaced each year. The lamp columns on this estate are cast iron and is accepted that they need replacement but this is subject to funding.
	<p>Pedestrian Crossing on Muswell Hill Direct pedestrian crossing at the bottom of Muswell Hill to enable walkers to cross to and from Alexandra Palace Way without having to negotiate a number of very busy roads.</p> <p>Cllr Engert</p>	Sustainable Transport	This issue can be listed for consideration as a Corridor scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.
Muswell Hill / Fortis Green	<p>Muswell Hill Roundabout (junctions with Muswell Hill, two arms of Muswell Hill Broadway, Queens Avenue and Dukes Avenue) – Solutions to improve the pedestrian environment including crossings and resolve issues around traffic build-up at the roundabout particularly to Queens Avenue which impedes traffic flow and delays buses at peak times.</p> <p>Cllr Newton</p>	Sustainable Transport	<p>This issue can be listed for consideration as a Corridor scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.</p> <p>The Dukes Avenue and Muswell Hill Broadway (North) arms will be improved for pedestrians in October as part of proposals to consider the relocation of the bus stop on the roundabout.</p>

	<p>Muswell Hill Traders initiatives to improve the shopping area Develop and take forward some of the bold and exciting initiatives put forward in the bid to round two of the Mayors Outer London Fund in 2011.</p>	<p>Sustainable Transport</p>	<p>This issue can be listed for consideration as a Corridor scheme through the consultation process for developing the 2014-17 LIP Delivery Plan.</p>

Appendix 1 - Muswell Hill, Alexandra, Fortis Green and Highgate Area Forum Report

Appendix 2 – Accident Data Archway Road