

**Contact:** Highway Improvements Team  
Email: [highwayimprovements@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:highwayimprovements@croydon.gov.uk)

Date: 23 July 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Crystal Palace & Upper Norwood Ward – Proposed Low Traffic Neighbourhood**

We are writing to inform you about the Council's proposals to introduce a new Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme in your ward that affects the following streets: Auckland Road, Sylvan Hill, Stambourne Way and Fox Hill.

The government has made it clear that it expects local authorities to make significant changes to the highway, providing more space for cyclists and pedestrians. Such changes will help embed the altered behaviours that have come about through the Covid19 lockdown and demonstrate the positive effects of active travel reducing a car based recovery. With public transport capacity reduced, even if a small percentage of people opted to use cars for their daily travel this could result in significant levels of congestion and pollution on the borough road network. In response, Croydon Council is introducing a number of highway improvement measures which includes the creation of new LTNs. LTNs create attractive streets for walking and cycling by preventing rat-running traffic using quieter residential streets whilst maintaining local access for residents & visitors. LTNs have the following key benefits:

- Reducing traffic & associated road danger
- Reducing congestion, air & noise pollution
- Prioritising routes for buses & cyclists
- Encourage active travel such as walking & cycling
- Enabling safe, socially distanced travel while public transport capacity is reduced

The following highway improvement measures have already been implemented to enable safe, socially distanced active travel in response to the lockdown, but now support the creation of a new LTN which should reduce the likelihood of a car based lockdown recovery especially when public transport capacity remains reduced:

**Existing local highway improvement measures:**

1. Low Traffic Streets – 3 point closures have been implemented on Lancaster Road, Warminster Road & Woodvale Avenue to prevent rat-running traffic from accessing these quieter residential streets and allow for safe, socially distanced active travel during the lockdown whilst maintaining local access.
2. Bus Gate – a new bus gate (except buses, cyclists & emergency services) has been implemented on Auckland Road at its junction with Cypress Road. This stops rat-running traffic travelling through Auckland Road whilst maintaining access for the 410 bus and cyclists.

As a result of the existing LTN measures outlined above, there has been a notable increase in rat-running traffic using Sylvan Hill and Stambourne Way.



This has led to an increase in congestion, noise & air pollution on these streets. In order to address some of those issues the following highway measures will be implemented on these streets from 3 August 2020:

**Proposed LTN measures:**

1. Low Traffic Street - Sylvan Hill: a point closure for all motor vehicles except cyclists on Sylvan Hill between Southolme Close & Treeview Close. This should prevent rat-running traffic from using Sylvan Hill to access Church Road/Auckland Road. Local access will be maintained via both Church Road and Auckland Road ends of Sylvan Hill.
2. Low Traffic Street - Stambourne Way: a point closure for all motor vehicles except cyclists at Stambourne Way junction with Church Road. This should prevent rat-running traffic from using Stambourne Way to access Church Road/Auckland Road. Local access will be maintained via the Auckland Road end of Stambourne Way.
3. Low Traffic Street – Fox Hill: No reports have yet been received regarding poor behaviour on Fox Hill, however, experience has shown that traffic quickly exploits a route when alternatives are removed. A point closure will be implemented to prevent access for all vehicles except cyclists at Fox Hill junction with Church Road. This will prevent rat-running traffic using Fox Hill to access Church Road/Auckland Road. Local access will be maintained via the Auckland Road end of Fox Hill.

All of the above closures will be self-enforcing through the installation of planters and barriers. I would like to apologise in advance for any inconvenience that may occur due to the works, and assure you that every effort will be made to keep disruption to a minimum. The Council is aware of disruption caused by utility works in the local area, a large proportion of this work is being undertaken as essential emergency repairs of ageing underground utility infrastructure such as gas mains etc. We are constantly monitoring the volume and duration of road works on our network and are using the relevant statutory powers available to minimise their impact on the main road network.

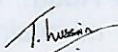
**Implementation & consultation timetable:**

The Crystal Palace & Upper Norwood LTN will be fully implemented under a Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) by 3 August 2020. This is your opportunity to comment and the Council is keen to receive your feedback on our proposals via our website: [www.croydon.gov.uk/csip](http://www.croydon.gov.uk/csip) or email at [highwayimprovements@croydon.gov.uk](mailto:highwayimprovements@croydon.gov.uk). All feedback will be taken account and will be presented to the Executive Director of Place, at which point it will be considered whether the LTN should be made permanent, amended or removed. Prior to reaching a final decision on the scheme a formal public consultation will be carried out when the lockdown is fully eased, giving local residents an opportunity to comment on the proposals taking into account pre-lockdown traffic levels and with public transport capacity normalised.

**Scheme notification:**

The following have been notified of the new LTN through the delivery of this letter, erection of on street signs and notices: All affected property frontages, local and statutory groups, emergency services and ward councillors.

Yours faithfully,



Tabrez Hussain

**Team Leader – Highway Improvements**