

SOUTH LEYTONSTONE LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD (LTN)



Image of existing modal filter on Blenheim Road

BACKGROUND

Waltham Forest Council is committed to creating people-friendly streets and neighbourhoods that actively encourage walking, cycling and using public transport. That's why we've spent the past 18 months developing and submitting funding bids to the Transport for London (TfL) Liveable Neighbourhoods programme for improvements in South Leytonstone, as well as Forest Gate and Maryland in partnership with the London Borough of Newham (LBN).

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, there is an even more urgent need to improve London's streets for walking and cycling, to reduce pressure on our road and public transport networks. With London's public transport capacity currently significantly reduced, millions of journeys a day need to be completed by other modes of transport. If these are replaced by car journeys, streets will become heavily congested, air quality will reduce, and road danger will increase. In some places we are already seeing traffic levels increase above pre Covid-19 levels.

To prevent this from happening, in August 2020 we partnered up with LBN to introduce an experimental Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) in the Forest Gate, Maryland and South Leytonstone areas. This area is referred to as Area 1 and Area 2 and is bounded by Crownfield Road, Cann Hall Road, Dames Road, Woodgrange Road, Forest Lane,

Leytonstone Road and Leyton Road. We are now extending this scheme further in South Leytonstone into the areas bounded by Ferndale Road, Montague Road, Harrow Road, Cann Hall Road, Crownfield Road, High Road Leyton, the A12 and Cathall Road (which we are referring to as Area 3 and Area 4).

These LTN schemes were included in the 2018 and 2019 joint-borough TfL Liveable Neighbourhoods bids and were developed taking into consideration feedback from the community engagement that took place during each bid process. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, TfL suspended the Liveable Neighbourhoods programme and redirected funding towards emergency interventions to support social distancing and enable active travel. Even though the Liveable Neighbourhoods funding is currently suspended, both boroughs allocated funding towards the LTN Area 1 and Area 2 as part of their commitment to delivering better streets for walking and cycling.

Since launching Area 1 and Area 2 Waltham Forest Council has secured funding from TfL's London Streetspace Plan (LSP) to deliver Area 3 and Area 4 of the LTN scheme, to ensure we deliver a scheme that will benefit the wider South Leytonstone area.

**WALK
CYCLE
ENJOY**

enjoy
WALTHAM FOREST
www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk


Waltham Forest

LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD

The scheme involves installing 11 modal filters (road closures to motorised vehicles) to create a LTN.

This will mean that motorised vehicles will no longer be able to use the area as a cut through to avoid main roads, which is known as 'rat running'. Recent data analysis of car usage in the area shows that 40 to 60 per cent of car journeys on most roads in Area 4 are vehicles cutting through the area.

With less traffic, noise and pollution, local streets will be safe and more pleasant to use, especially for children to cross the road and walk or cycle to school. The LTN will reduce the level of harmful emissions from motorised vehicles driving through the area, help people stay physically active and healthy, and encourage a shift to more sustainable modes of transport.

To begin with, the experimental modal filters will be installed for 6 to 18 months and during this time we will be gathering local feedback, consulting key stakeholders and collecting traffic data to help determine whether the scheme will be made permanent in the future.

Area 3 is bounded by Crownfield Road, High Road Leyton, the A12, Cathall Road and High Road Leytonstone, and has a total of four modal filters proposed.

Area 4 is bounded by Ferndale Road, Montague Road, Harrow Road, Cann Hall Road and High Road Leytonstone, and has a total of seven modal filters proposed.

Please see the map for exact locations of the modal filters.

The modal filters will be created by using large planters and bollards placed in the streets at various locations to restrict access for motorised vehicles, but these will still allow enough space for pedestrians and cyclists to travel through them. Some of the modal filters will include lockable bollards to be used by emergency services should they need to.

When the modal filters are installed all addresses will continue to be accessible for residents, visitors, deliveries, etc, however the way you reach your property via your usual routes may change. As with all changes to the highway it can take a little while for people to get used to the new layouts, therefore we ask that you take the time to view the map to identify any changes to your regular journeys.

We know emergency services access can be a concern and we need to make sure that they can continue to provide a vital service for the community. The emergency services are also statutory consultees which is why we work closely with them on all schemes to ensure they are fully consulted before work begins. Please be assured that we will continue to liaise regularly with the emergency services to ensure the scheme is working for them and any issues are identified early.

SCHOOL STREETS

Alongside the LTN we are working with schools in the area to introduce School Streets, which involve temporarily closing one or more of the streets surrounding a school to most vehicles for a short period at the start and end of the school day. Doing this helps improve road safety, reduces inconsiderate parking and dangerous vehicle movements, improves air quality around the school and makes it easier for pupils, parents, carers and staff to walk, scoot and cycle to school.

To date we have introduced School Streets in the South Leytonstone area at The Jenny Hammond Primary School and Davies Lane Primary School, and will be introducing a School Street at Buxton School on Monday 2 November.

The School Street zone for Buxton School will include the following roads where vehicles will be restricted at the start and end of the school day: **Woodhouse Road, Terling Close, Newcomen Road, Jenny Hammond Close and Courtenay Road.**

The School Street will operate between 8.15am and 9.15am and 2.30pm and 3.00pm, Monday to Friday, term-time only. Residents who live within the School Streets zone will receive a separate leaflet, which will contain further information on the School Streets trial.

More information can be found online by visiting **www.walthamforest.gov.uk/schoolstreets**

Any feedback on the School Streets schemes in South Leytonstone can be submitted by visiting the LTN online map-based survey **southleytonstoneltn.commonplace.is**



Image of existing modal filter on Hesketh Road

YOUR VIEWS

During the Liveable Neighbourhoods funding bids to TfL in 2018 and 2019 we launched several perception surveys, inviting the local community to tell us about the area, what the key issues were, and what could be improved. This was used to help develop and support the bids. Normally, we would do further engagement with local people before building a scheme such as this. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we need to act quickly to keep our roads safe and we will therefore start construction from **19 October 2020**.

This does not mean that we are rushing scheme delivery but are working to create a dialogue with local people to ensure the changes are right for the area. The views of local people are vital to the success of these schemes and as we have done with Area 1 and Area 2, we will be running our engagement activity alongside implementation of the scheme to capture and respond to local views from the start. Not only is this method of engaging encouraged by central government, it also allows local people to see the immediate effects of the changes and provide feedback on actual experiences.

To help us refine the LTN scheme, we will be running an online map-based survey for at least six months to get your views on the scheme. This will allow us to make potential short-term changes to improve the experimental scheme where needed and will also inform the design of a possible permanent scheme. You can find the survey online at southleytonstoneltn.commonplace.is

Please note that although we are not conducting an informal public consultation in advance, the scheme is subject to a statutory consultation, where anyone can formally comment on the Experimental Traffic Orders (ETOs) within the first six months.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

All feedback received will help us develop the scheme as it progresses as well as understand if improvements need to be made. Over the next six months people will be able to give feedback by visiting southleytonstoneltn.commonplace.is. Here you will be able leave comments on specific locations and sign up to receive scheme updates.

At key milestones in the project, we will invite people to complete a series of questions to give us more detailed feedback on how well the scheme is working, which will help us develop a permanent scheme. This will be done through the Commonplace website, so please sign up to updates if you would like to be notified.

If you do not have internet access, please write to us at the contact details below and we will send you a printed copy of the map and survey.

**Enjoy Waltham Forest, Low Hall Depot,
Argall Avenue London, E10 7AS**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

Construction works will start from **19 October 2020**, and both Area 3 and Area 4 are scheduled to be completed within a two-week period. During this time, our construction team will aim to minimise disruption and will be adhering to guidelines around Covid-19 safe working standards. Residents located next to a modal filter will receive a construction notification letter before work begins. Traffic restrictions for the modal filters will be implemented via ETOs. The first six months form part of the statutory consultation, where residents can formally comment on the ETOs. Waltham Forest Council has advertised the necessary ETOs and publicised these in accordance with legal requirements.

For more information on the LTN in partnership with LBN for Area 1 and 2, please visit newhamwalthamforestltn.commonplace.is

For more information on the South Leytonstone LTN Area 3 and 4, please visit southleytonstoneltn.commonplace.is

SOUTH LEYTONSTONE LOW TRAFFIC NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA 3 & 4 PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

