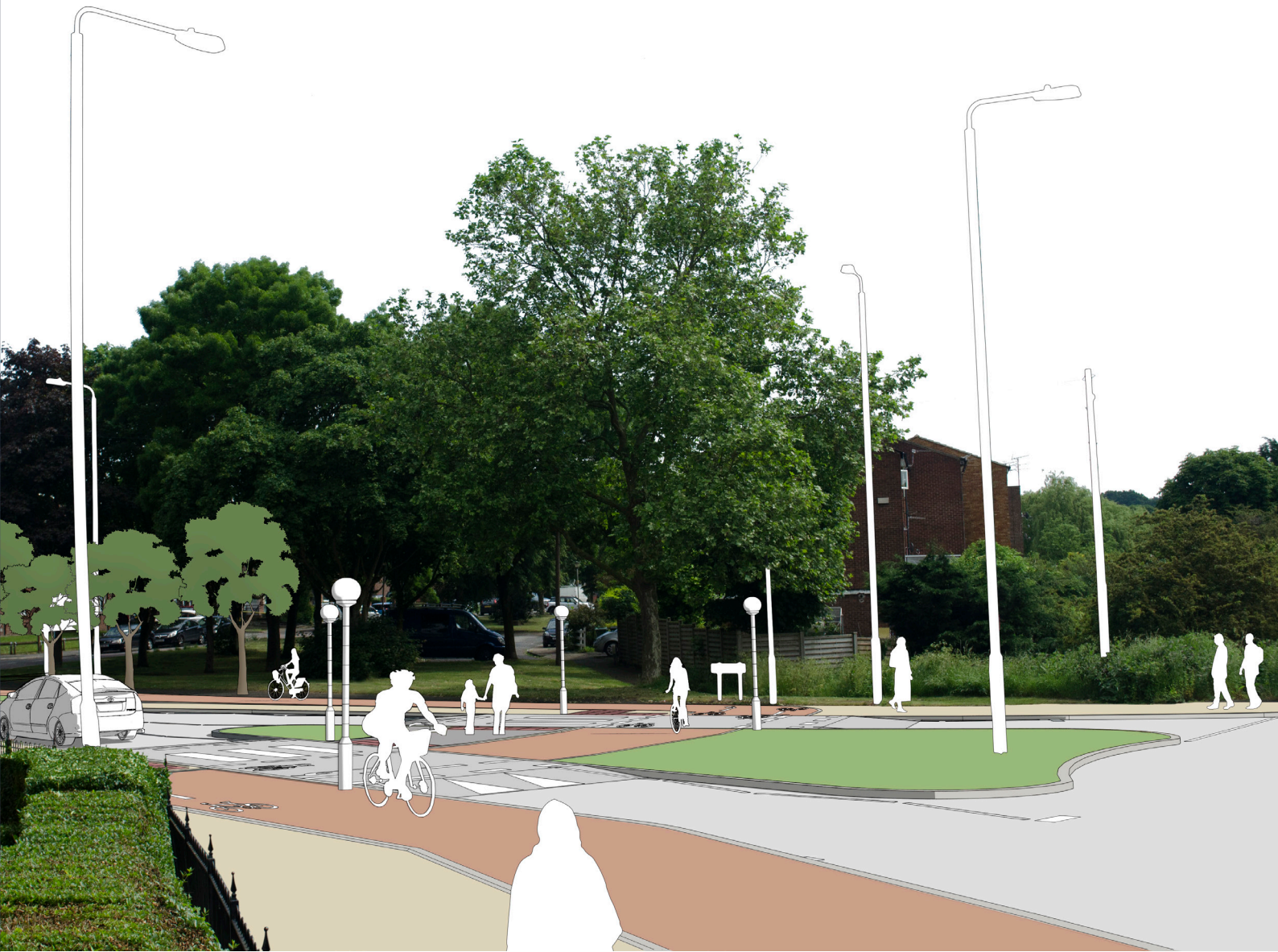


CHINGFORD TOWN CENTRE AREA IMPROVEMENTS



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CHINGFORD TOWN CENTRE AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Waltham Forest is changing and we want you to be part of it. Thanks to funding from Transport for London, we're delivering a range of improvements to make our streets fit for everyone to use, whether you walk, cycle, use public transport or drive.

The Chingford Town Centre scheme area has over 22,500 addresses and includes the area framed by the North Circular Road, Waltham Way, Sewardstone Road, the northern and eastern borough boundary, Hatch Lane and Larkshall Road. We're planning to make a range of improvements to the area, to help create better connected walking and cycling routes, making it easier for you to walk and cycle for local journeys should you choose to. We also want to improve the look and feel of the area making it an even more enjoyable place, boosting business and giving residents a sense of pride in their community.

Between 2010 and 2015, over 180 people were injured on roads in Chingford and air pollution in Waltham Forest is on the increase. At peak times of the day, we have up to 6,000 extra cars on our roads due to the school run. We need to do something about this so that everyone can get from A to B easily and safely.

We want to make our streets work for everyone and our borough a better place to live, work and visit. By creating designated space for cycling, creating routes that better connect our town centres and redesigning some of our public areas we want to help families get about safely, cut down unnecessary traffic outside your home and work with businesses so that people want to spend time in our borough and get the most out of this once in a lifetime opportunity.

We have four town centre schemes, one of which is Chingford. These schemes will better connect Chingford, Highams Park, Leyton and Leytonstone through key walking and cycling routes, making areas of the borough easier to get to for people who want to walk and cycle for local journeys. The town centre schemes will also improve the look and feel of these four key areas whilst linking in with the four Village schemes in Walthamstow, making them more enjoyable places to spend time and money.

WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

In April 2016, we sent a survey to all households in the scheme area to understand your concerns and aspirations and what you want to see in your local area. Over 1,500 people took part, providing over 1,000 individual comments, which we analysed and used to shape the next stage of the plans. You can find the results of the survey online at www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/chingford-town-centre

This feedback helped create an early design which was presented to over 150 residents who attended our co-design workshops in May and June 2016. During these workshops local residents and businesses worked with us on the proposed design, which you can find outlined in this leaflet, to help us make sure the scheme fits everyone's needs.

We are also speaking to key stakeholders (including the emergency services, schools and community groups) to make sure we take their views on board and the proposals work well for them. We will continue to engage with these groups as the scheme progresses through to final design and completion.

We have used information about traffic movements and volumes to design a scheme that benefits all road users. More information about this design is detailed in this leaflet and we are asking for your views on it.

GIVING YOUR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED DESIGN

We want everyone who lives, works and uses the local area to have their say on the scheme design and help shape the proposals. To help manage the consultation and feedback we receive, we are asking you to rate and comment on groups of proposals rather than individual measures, and to tell us what else you would like to see.

Please read each group of proposals listed carefully, and tell us your thoughts on each one in the accompanying questionnaire. Depending on how much you write, we expect the survey to take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

The proposed plans

1 CYCLE ROUTES – INCLUDING CYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS

To make it easier and safer for people who want to make local journeys by bike, we are proposing two local cycle routes through the area. Both routes will provide connections to and from Walthamstow and Highams Park, linking local schools and parks on the way.

The new cycle routes will create a more attractive and safer route for people wanting to cycle in Chingford, while also providing a more direct route to other town centres in the borough.

As part of this, we are also planning to provide new and improved road crossings and improve key junctions, which will help people who want to walk in Chingford.

The two routes consist of the following proposals:

CYCLE ROUTE (WEST) FROM CAVENDISH ROAD TO STATION ROAD

- We plan to make the following improvements to the alleyway between Higham Station Avenue and Coningsby Gardens (subject to the necessary private land agreements):
 - Improve the lighting along the route so that people feel safer cycling and walking all year round
 - Improve the alleyway surface to make walking and cycling along the route more comfortable and safer
- Provide an alternative on-street cycle route so that people don't have to cycle through Larkswood Playing Field if they don't want to, especially when it is dark. This cycle route will run along Normanshire Drive
- Provide an alternative on-street cycle route so that people don't have to cycle through Chingford Mount Cemetery if they don't want to, especially when it is dark. This cycle route will run along Grove Road, Harold Road and Gunners Grove
- Improve the existing cycle track for people walking and cycling where this crosses Bailey Close and Normanshire Drive
- Move the pelican crossing opposite The Harvester restaurant on New Road and change it to a new combined cycle and pedestrian zebra crossing (please see image 1 below for an example). We're planning to put it on New Road adjacent to the junction with Grove Road (please see plan 1) so it can be used by people walking and cycling along the route, as well as people visiting the leisure centres and restaurants



IMAGE 1. COMBINED PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE CROSSING



IMAGE 2. BLENDED 'COPENHAGEN' CROSSING

- Put a new blended 'Copenhagen' crossing, in where the New Road (slip road) meets Grove Road (please see image 2 above for an example of one already put in). We have already introduced these crossings in other parts of the borough and they help make roads safer by encouraging drivers to give way to pedestrians and cycles, as per the Highway Code. These crossings are popular in Europe and extend the pavement across side streets at key junctions, giving pedestrians a continuous pavement rather than a traditional kerb that they need to wait at before crossing the side road. This encourages vehicles to slow down when entering or exiting the side road
- Move the bus stop (for buses 357, 444 and W16) on New Road about 30 metres east (closer to the entrance of the leisure centre car park) to make room for the improved pelican crossing
- Plant more trees at the junction of New Road and Grove Road to improve the public space there
- Introduce parking restrictions on Endlebury Road (between Heathcote Grove and Horsley Road) during peak times from 7 to 10am and 3 to 6pm, Monday to Friday. This will provide more space for cycles and vehicles to share the road and reduce the potential for collisions. It will also help pedestrians and cycles cross the road by improving visibility and help improve traffic flow during peak times. Advisory cycle lane markings will also be installed at this location. Vehicles will be allowed to park outside these times
- Raise the road to pavement level in Pretoria Road at the junction with Kings Road, to encourage vehicles to slow down and improve safety for all road users
- Provide signage and cycle road markings along the route to make vehicles aware that this is a cycle route while making it easier to navigate for people who cycle. The road markings are usually cycle symbols painted on the road.

CYCLE ROUTE (EAST) FROM HATCH LANE TO CHINGFORD STATION

- Install a new combined cycle and pedestrian zebra crossing (please see image 1 for an example) on Friday Hill by the roundabout to provide a safe crossing point for pedestrians and people who cycle (please see plan 2)
 - Introduce a segregated cycle lane – separated from the main section of the road by kerbs and pavement – to create a separate space for cycling, making it easier and safer for drivers and cyclists to share the road (please see image 3 below for an example). This will run along the following locations:
 - On Friday Hill – linking to the new pedestrian and cycle crossing on Hatch Lane which is part of the Highams Park Town Centre scheme. You can find out more by visiting <https://highamparktc.commonplace.is>
 - From the new Friday Hill pedestrian and cycle crossing (described above) to the road closure already on Friday Hill East
 - Move the bus stop near Chingdale Road (for buses 212 and 357) on Friday Hill East to Friday Hill. And, install a bus layby which will provide space for the new segregated cycle lane described above
 - Improve the public space outside Whitehall Primary School by widening and resurfacing the pavement, providing cycle parking and new seating, and planting trees (please see plan 3)
 - Move the zebra crossing on Whitehall Road from its current location 35 metres east of Normanton Park to the junction of Normanton Park and Long Deacon Road, and upgrade it to a new combined cycle and pedestrian zebra (please see image 1). This will provide a safer crossing for pedestrians and cycles (please see plan 4)
 - To put this combined crossing in, we will need to make the following road changes to stop vehicles turning out of the road directly onto the new crossing:
 - Put a no entry in from Whitehall Road into Long Deacon Road
 - Put a left turn ban on Long Deacon Road (turning into Whitehall Road)
- These changes should also help reduce the amount of traffic using Long Deacon Road.**
- Provide signage and cycle road markings along the route to make vehicles aware that this is a cycle route while making it easier to navigate for people who cycle. The road markings are usually cycle symbols painted on the road.



IMAGE 3. SEGREGATED CYCLE LANE, ARGALL WAY

Proposed measures

-  New crossings
-  Traffic calming
-  Tree planting / landscaping
-  Pedestrian improvements
-  Cycle improvements
-  New cycle route A406 to Chingford (east)
-  New cycle route A406 to Chingford (west)
-  Alternative cycle route A406 to Chingford (west) (During the hours of darkness)
-  Cycle route - Leyton to Chingford (separate project - being planned for the future)
-  Corridor scheme - Kings Head Hill (separate project - see accompanying plan/text)
-  Endlebury Road area proposals (see accompanying text)
-  See detailed plans



2 KINGS HEAD HILL

We are proposing a number of road changes to Kings Head Hill between Sewardstone Road and The Ridgeway to make this part of the road safer for all road users. We're planning to make the following improvements (please see the supplementary Kings Head Hill plan):

- Introduce double yellow lines at a number of locations on both sides of Kings Head Hill, mainly around the existing 'islands' in the centre of the road that help you cross, to ensure these areas are clear of parked vehicles. We know that parking by the islands can lead to congestion, delays for buses and general safety problems. This will provide a safer layout for all road users and improve traffic flow (please see the Kings Head Hill plan for the exact locations)
- Introduce single yellow lines on the uphill section of Kings Head Hill to provide more space for vehicles and cycles to share the road, and reduce the potential for collisions. When travelling uphill cycles tend to travel more slowly and require more space so restricting parking during peak times will help improve safety and traffic flow. These restrictions will operate 7 to 10am and 3 to 6pm Monday to Friday. Vehicles will be allowed to park outside these times
- Widen the pavements and raise the road to pavement level to encourage drivers to slow down at the following side roads:
 - Drysdale Avenue
 - Pole Hill Road
 - Parkhill Road
- Move the following bus stops to help improve traffic flow at these locations:
 - The bus stop opposite Pole Hill Road will be moved about 30 metres downhill
 - The bus stop outside 168 Kings Head Hill will be moved about 30 metres downhill
- The islands in the middle of the road that help people cross the road safely will be widened and lengthened to make it safer to cross the road.

3 CHANGES TO ENDLIBURY ROAD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA

Following the resident workshops in May and June 2016, 29 local residents have asked us to close Endlebury Road, to cut down non-residential traffic, and reduce traffic speeds and volumes in that road.

Before we do anything, we would like to understand what the wider local community think about putting a 'modal filter' (road closure) in on Endlebury Road. A modal filter would allow pedestrians and cycles to pass through but not motorised vehicles, and could include locating trees and bollards to stop vehicles from 'cutting through'. Residents living on Endlebury Road would still be able to drive and park in their road, they would just need to access it in a different way. Emergency services and services like rubbish collections would also still be able to access the road if a modal filter was put in.

Please tell us what you think of the idea in this consultation. If there is enough support from the wider community for the modal filter we will need to start looking at the different options on where the closure could go and whether other measures would be needed in the wider area, for example to manage displaced traffic on the surrounding streets.

We know that road closures can really divide opinion so it's important that you have your say and tell us what you think about the idea so that anything we do suits the wider community.

TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION

We hope you like the proposals and can see how they will benefit Chingford Town Centre for everyone. It's important that you help us shape the improvements by telling us your views.

Please provide your feedback by 28 September 2016.

There are a number of ways for you to have your say:

- Online – visit <https://chingfordtc.commonplace.is/> to complete the questionnaire and provide comments online
- Request a hardcopy of the consultation document and questionnaire by emailing enjoy@walthamforest.gov.uk or calling 020 8496 3000
- Come and talk to us and view the plans on:
 - **Wednesday 14 September, 6pm to 9pm**
Rushcroft Foundation School, Rushcroft Road, Chingford, E4 8SG
 - **Wednesday 21 September, 6pm to 9pm**
Morningson Hall, Green Walk, Chingford, E4 7EN.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

All of the feedback received will be grouped, carefully analysed and used to shape the final design.

Where there are elements of the scheme that are not well supported by residents and businesses, we will look at these again. Where it's possible to make changes based on your comments and suggestions we will, and where we can't we will explain why. A summary of the results and feedback will be sent to everyone who took part after the public consultation stage has ended. This will set out the results and how they have been used to help shape the final design. This will also be available on the website for everyone to see.

Before we get to the final design stage, Transport for London (TfL) will also need to approve all of our plans as the funders of the programme.

For more information visit www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk