

Westmoreland Road Summary Report

Public Realm Improvement Works - Summary Report

September 2015

www.southwark.gov.uk



Westmoreland Road

Public Realm Improvement Scheme

Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	3
1.1	Background	3
1.2	Consultation Process	4
2	Summary of Consultation Results	5
2.1	Consultation Returns and Response Rate	5
2.2	Questionnaire Analysis	5
2.3	Respondents' Comments.....	6
2.4	Levels of Consensus.....	9
3	Recommendations.....	10
	Appendices.....	10

1 Introduction

1.1 *Background*

- 1.1.1 This report has been produced by the London Borough of Southwark Public Realm team to provide a summary on the consultation exercise for the proposed Public Realm Improvement Works in Westmoreland Road.
- 1.1.2 Westmoreland Road is located in Faraday Ward just north of Camberwell town centre and it sits just outside of the town centre.
- 1.1.3 The Council is committed to making Southwark's street safer and more accessible to all and the proposals for the road fulfil this commitment. The proposed measures enhance the environment for vulnerable road users and improve pedestrian safety by reducing traffic speeds and crossing distances and creating public space that is pedestrian friendly and inviting.
- 1.1.4 The following measures were consulted upon to improve pedestrian safety and accessibility in Westmoreland Road (the extent of which is attached in Appendix A):
- Proposed raised table with uncontrolled pedestrian crossing points to assist with accessibility from Red Lion Road and to slow down vehicle speeds.
 - Footway to be built out adjacent to the proposed pedestrian crossing location on the north side to reduce the carriageway width and a crossing distance for pedestrians. The footway build-out also maximises the amount of parking retained on the northern side of Westmoreland Road.
 - Junction of Horsley Road to be built out to improve visibility for pedestrians crossing the junction. By extending footway, the carriageway width is reduced which improves visibility for vehicles exiting Horsley Road to join Westmoreland Road.
 - The southern footway of Westmoreland Road, west of its junction with Red Lion Row, is also being built out to reduce carriageway width and discourage inconsiderate parking on double yellow lines.
 - The visual amenity of the streetscape will be improved through the introduction of three new street trees and use of granite as a high quality paving materials in footways matching those used on Walworth Road (SSDM 'Town Centre' palette).
 - To ensure adequate visibility is maintained on approach to the pedestrian crossing locations 'at any time' double yellow line parking controls are proposed.
- 1.1.5 Public Consultation on these proposals took place from early July through to mid August 2015. All residents and businesses within the consultation area were asked whether they support, oppose or are neutral regarding the proposed public realm improvement works.

1.2 ***Consultation Process***

- 1.2.1 The views of the local community and those of statutory consultees were sought as part of this consultation exercise. Active community participation was encouraged through the use of a simple consultation document and questionnaire (examples of which are attached in Appendix B and C) and via the new online consultation portal.
- 1.2.2 The consultation documents included an A3 size colour consultation plan with a brief description of the proposed works and an A4 questionnaire / comment form that could be sent back to the Public Realm Team in a pre-paid self-addressed envelope.
- 1.2.3 The consultation document was delivered to a geographical area which was pre-agreed with Faraday Ward Councillors. The area was bounded by Albany Road to the south, Portland Street to the east, Camberwell Road and Walworth Road to the west and East Street to the north (map showing the consultation boundary is attached in Appendix D).
- 1.2.4 The distribution area was large enough to gain views from the wider community that may be considered to be affected by the proposed measures. A mailing list was drawn using the Council's Local Land and Property Gazetteer database.
- 1.2.5 The consultation documents were delivered by Royal Mail to 1884 addresses. They were delivered by 2nd class post on the 13th July 2015 with a return deadline of the 14th August 2015. Five hundred and sixteen consultation packs were returned to Southwark offices due to the addresses no longer being occupied.
- 1.2.6 The consultation was also available online via the new consultation portal. The portal included the following PDF downloads:
- The consultation document
 - The questionnaire
 - Feasibility plan showing proposals
 - A direct phone number and email address to the public realm team was made available to those wishing to make enquires via those methods to do so. There were no emails or calls received.
- 1.2.7 Respondents were able to give their views either by completing and returning the 'hard copy' of the questionnaire or by completing the questionnaire online.
- 1.2.8 Public access to the online form was removed at the end of the consultation period. Receipt of postal returns was accepted until 21st August 2015.
- 1.2.9 During the consultation, a drop-in session, staffed by council's officers, was held at Southwark Resource Centre in 10 Bradenham Close (off Westmoreland Road) on Saturday, 18th July 2015 between 11 and 2pm.
- 1.2.10 The session was attended by a small number of people all providing valuable feedback and comments. Officers also spoke to residents on the street and provided additional copies of the consultation papers and feedback form for residents.

2 Summary of Consultation Results

2.1 Consultation Returns and Response Rate

- 2.1.1 The consultation closed on 14th August 2015. Public access to the online portal was removed at midnight on this date.
- 2.1.2 Questionnaires submitted by post were accepted up until 21st August 2015.
- 2.1.3 A total of 103 responses were received during the consultation period. This represents 8% response rate.
- 2.1.4 The majority of responses were received by post (84), 11 people came in person to our drop-in session with the remaining 8 responses received via the consultation website.
- 2.1.5 Officers have verified the data to ensure that only one response per household was received and that all responses received were from an address within the project area. As a result of this exercise, no responses needed to be removed from the data.
- 2.1.6 Three responses were classed as anonymous.
- 2.1.7 Table 2 below summarises the consultation returns:

Description	Result
Number of properties consulted	1884 (516 of these were not delivered)
Number of responses	103 (101 resident and 2 businesses)
Number of duplicate responses	0
Number of responses received from outside the consultation boundary	0
Number of responses included in the analysis	103
Response rate	8%
Method of response	82% by post; 7% online; 11% in person

Table 1 – Analysis of Consultation Returns

2.2 Questionnaire Analysis

- 2.2.1 The questionnaire contained space for comments and the following two questions had associated tick box options:
 - Q1. Are you a resident or business?
 - Q2. What do you think of the proposals?
- 2.2.2 One hundred and one of questionnaires returned during the consultation period were from local residents and two from businesses who formally responded to the consultation exercise.

2.2.3 The following table demonstrates the responses received to question Q2:

Response rate	Do you support or Oppose Public Realm Proposals in Westmoreland Road?		
	Support	Oppose	No Opinion
103 out of 1368	96	4	3
8%	93%	4%	3%

Table 2: Returned questionnaire results for question Q2

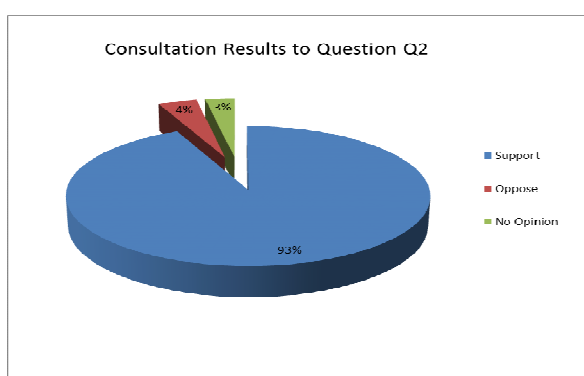


Figure 1: Consultation Results to question Q2

2.2.4 The table and a graph above indicate a 93% support for the improvement works in Westmoreland Road.

2.3 Respondents' Comments

2.3.1 The questionnaire and an e-form on the consultation website also invited consultees to provide any additional comments they may have on the proposals. Out of 103 returned questionnaire, 60 (58%) provided comments and or suggestions on the proposals.

2.3.2 The following table sets out major comments received in respect to the scheme:

Main Issues Raised	Respondents' Comments		Our comment
	In favour of (if applicable)	... and against (if applicable)	
Customer Parking	"Will all the parking be for residents only? If so, please consider parking for customers of local shops..."	n/a	All bays in Westmoreland Road are at present resident and paid for parking bays. There are no changes proposed to the parking designation and shopper will be able to continue to use these bays.
Market Stalls	"Space for a MARKET! – Farmers Market / Flower etc." "Market stalls on Sundays (adjacent to Southwark Resource Centre)"	n/a	Our street market team is moving Westmoreland Road market to a nearby Brandenham Close.

Westmoreland Road – Summary Report

Main Issues Raised	Respondents' Comments		Our comment
	In favour of (if applicable)	... and against (if applicable)	
TfL Cycle Hire	"Could you please put a TfL Boris Bike cycle stand as the nearest one is Elephant & Castle."	n/a	Southwark is developing a plan for extending the TfL cycle hire within the borough. Installing a stand requires a minimum of 24 stands so finding the right location to accommodate it can be a challenge. The funding is also an issue as these are very costly to install.
Motorcycle Bay	"...possibly a motorcycle bay?"	n/a	There are currently no plans to provide motorcycle parking bays. Residents are able to purchase a permit to park within the residents bays.
Loading Bay	n/a	"We don't need loading bays..."	Loading bay is being provided to support local businesses.
Lighting Columns	"New improved lighting provision is good." " ...perhaps one more lighting column nearer to Horsley Street. "	"The proposed lighting columns are not in suitable locations!!! They are right in front of residents' windows! They should be located with a certain distance to the facades, closer to the actual street..."	Lighting is currently being redesigned to bring them closer to the front of the footway.
Cycle Lanes	"Cycle lanes on extended walkways."	n/a	Southwark avoid putting cycle lanes on footways as this creates conflict with pedestrians and vulnerable road users. In carriageway, cycle lanes are provided on cycle routes when vehicle numbers are high. Westmoreland Road is lightly trafficked and it is suitable for cyclists to remain in the carriageway.
Cycle Hangers	"...could there also be lockable bike containers?"	n/a	This is being considered in nearby Merrow Street.
Trees & Greenery	"...I am very happy with the proposal, especially with suggestion of planting trees in the indicated positions..." " It would be good to have more green. Not only 3 trees but also low level planting beds and shrubs! " "There are only trees proposed for one side of the road (northern side), it would be good to have some on the southern side if possible..." " ...more trees if possible... " "As well as trees, can flower beds (possibly raised) be considered?" " It'll be a huge improvement, especially once the trees mature. " "...more trees." " ...the more trees and greenery the better! " "More trees and less cars is a good thing..." " Please provide for more street trees. There is space for at least 3 more in addition to the 3 proposed in the plan. "	n/a	We are looking at the possibility of planting more trees. It is important that we plant the right trees in the right locations to ensure longevity and avoid future maintenance.

Westmoreland Road – Summary Report

Main Issues Raised	Respondents' Comments		Our comment
	In favour of (if applicable)	... and against (if applicable)	
Speed Limit	"Speed limit signs – say 15mph?"	n/a	Speed limit is now 20mph on all Southwark streets.
Granite Paving	"Positive – introducing noble material such as stone (granite)... hopefully all streets here will be granite covered in near future." " ...higher quality than Walworth Road materials, which haven't aged well. " '...consistency of paving with adjoining roads to allow continuity.'	"... I wish more traditional materials could be used. London is not a granite city..."	Westmoreland road is within the easy reach of the town centre hence the choice of townscape palette. It is also a gateway into new regeneration zones of Heygate and Aylesbury Estate.
Numbered Kerbs	"Numbered kerbs should be retained where possible to ensure history of Westmoreland Road market continues!!"	n/a	To ensure uniformity, the kerbs in Westmoreland Road will be replaced with granite kerbs.
Parking	"Re: proposed parking pay + display bays. Currently vehicles park on the double yellow lines all the time. I use road daily – no one ever get a parking ticket, so good luck with the bays." " We really need more residential parking... "	n/a	Footway is being extended to discourage parking on double yellow lines and to ensure the double yellow lines are self-enforcing. We have asked Parking to increase the frequency of the enforcement in this area in the interim.
Shop Fronts	"We will not be able to regenerate this area if we do not improve the shops here..." " It would also be positive to make shop fronts more attractive. " "Are you going to update all shops..." " Shop frontages need improved (sic.) "	n/a	Once the works are done in the street, a team from council's regeneration department will make arrangements to improve the appearance of shop fronts in the road.
Reducing Carriageway Width	"Narrowing the road would be a constraint (it is one of the few ways to get in & out of the local area), but in fact it seems likely an improvement – currently double parking & careless / inconsiderate stopping often occurs in an undisciplined manner..."	"We want to widen the road."	The road is reduced in width to 4.8m which is an acceptable width for a two-way street. This will reduce the opportunity for vehicles to double park as they do at present and enables the widening of footways.
CCTV	"CCTV would be great specially at night. Been robbed and injured twice." " I would also suggest CCTC cameras for bikes as the areas is known for high rates of bike thefts... "	n/a	Provision of CCTV is outside the scope of this project. We shall pass this comment / request to our security team for consideration.
Footways	"Positive - reducing the carriageway to increase pedestrian sidewalks." " Fully support the widening of footways. " "I appreciate the wider footways..." " I welcome footway widening... "	"...wider footways are not necessary in this area..."	Footways are being widened to create safer environment for all road users – in particular vulnerable pedestrians and children.
Cycle Stands	"Cycle stands are also good..." " Suggest more cycle stands opposite Horsley Street... " "Nice to see trees + bike racks incorporated." " Additional cycle stands would be welcome... "	n/a	Due to the cost of diverting BT services, minor alternation to the proposals is currently being investigated. This will affect the number and location of cycle stands, lighting columns and benches. Increased provision of cycle stands is being considered. Revised proposals are attached in Appendix E.

Westmoreland Road – Summary Report

Main Issues Raised	Respondents' Comments		Our comment
	In favour of (if applicable)	... and against (if applicable)	
Rubbish Bins	<p>"There is often a lot of rubbish dumped on the pavement by the bin. This will need to be addressed properly to fully improve the appearance & streetscape."</p> <p>"Where will the Public House's bins be located? ... Ideally, they should be placed out of sight for pleasant street view."</p> <p>"Bins must be provided along the street as this is a major cause of bad smells on the street!!..."</p> <p>"Bins for litter...Dog poo bins. Fines to be implemented (not just threatened) for dumping."</p>	n/a	Our waste management team is being made aware of the issues raised through this consultation. We will consult with them on whether it is a good idea to introduce more on street bins as part of this scheme. Enforcement and a more efficient waste management plan is being considered.
Benches	<p>"Positive – introducing trees, benches & cycle stands."</p> <p>"Also like the inclusion of more trees and benches."</p> <p>"Especially support trees and seating."</p> <p>"Love to see more benches than only two."</p> <p>"...benches good idea!"</p> <p>"We are supportive of the proposed benches for people to sit down and the proposed cycle parking..."</p> <p>"Can I ask about benches? The benches installed as part of the redevelopment to the south of this area, between Westmoreland Road and Burgess Park are attractive, modern and appear substantial and durable. It would be good if the proposed benches could match these and create a feeling of continuity and oneness for the area as a whole."</p>	<p>"We oppose to benches being placed as this will be used by people drinking on the street..."</p> <p>"Benches & wider footways are not necessary in this area, this will invite more antisocial behaviour."</p> <p>"Please consider who may be sitting, or even sleeping on them..."</p> <p>"I am just not sure about the benches at it will promote more street meetings of noisy people..."</p> <p>"Would not recommend putting benches in this area. It will likely result in more groups of men congregating outside the shops to drink..."</p> <p>"It will feel unsafe sitting on the benches next to the proposed raised table."</p>	The number of benches is being considered as well as their location and as a part of our quality plan, monitoring will be undertaken immediately after implementation. We are considering replacing benches with a smaller number of seats which would still allow resting places for pedestrians but reduce the risk of creating a space for street drinkers.
General	<p>"Please extend this refurbishment to other roads off of Walworth Road..."</p> <p>"Scheme should be extended down Red Lion Row..."</p> <p>"Pavements on Red Lion Row should also be fixed..."</p> <p>"...it is a good scheme to bring the local area up to a decent standard. Well done Southwark council!"</p>	n/a	Southwark is currently working on improving the streetscape in Walworth Road and these works are due on site next year. Footway renewal of Southwark's street is done in accordance with assessment of the footway condition carried out annually by an outside contractor.

2.3.3 42% of respondents did not submit a further comment.

2.4 Levels of Consensus

2.4.1 The following level of agreement has been achieved in relation to the questions contained within the consultation document:

- Support - 93% consultees support the proposals
- Oppose - 4% consultees oppose the scheme
- No Opinion - 3% consultees have had no opinion

3 Recommendations

In light of the positive consultation outcome for the proposed safety and streetscape improvements in Westmoreland Road and the council's commitment for making streets in the borough safer for all road users, it is recommended that the scheme is progressed to implementation.

A report is being taken to Borough Bankside Walworth Community Council on the 16th September with the officer's recommendation to proceed to detailed design and construction and the advertisement of the relevant traffic orders. Revised proposals are attached in Appendix E.

The traffic order process will be subject to statutory consultation.

Appendices

Appendix A	Map – The Extent of Works
Appendix B	Consultation Documents
Appendix C	Consultation Questionnaire
Appendix D	Map of the Consultation Boundary
Appendix E	Revised Proposals