

Important- Public Consultation

This is your opportunity to comment on the Council's plans



May 2013

Grafton Road Timed closure Proposed amendments

Camden Council is seeking your views to improve the layout and operation of the timed closure and width restriction that has been in place for over ten years in Grafton Road (between Barrington Close and Kiln Place). The timed closure was proposed following a traffic study for the area in 1998, which identified Grafton Road as a significant 'rat-run' for traffic avoiding Kentish Town Road. As part of the public consultation, options were presented including road closure (at all times), a timed closure and an option to do nothing. Local residents, businesses and groups at the time supported the timed closure which sought to cut this rat-run of through traffic, whilst minimising the impact to local people outside peak hours.

In 2002 the timed closure was introduced using automatic rising bollards that physically stopped traffic passing during the peak times. The bollards stopped traffic travelling southbound between 7.00am and 11.00am and northbound between 3.00pm and 8.00pm, Monday - Friday only (except bank holidays). Traffic surveys in 2003 showed that traffic had reduced on Grafton Road by up to 82%. Because of the reduction in traffic, improved pedestrian crossings were introduced at the junction of Prince of Wales Road with Grafton Road.

Although the automatic rising bollards self-enforced the timed closure, they were prone to failure and proved difficult to maintain. They were shut down two years later, and after Councils were given new powers, CCTV enforcement began in 2005. This was followed by a second consultation in 2007 which reduced the closure periods to 7.00am and 10.00am southbound and 3.00pm and 7.00pm northbound.

We are aware that some drivers find the existing closure confusing, and they do not understand the signs used. The current signage (shown in Diagram 1) is in the Highway Code and meets the Department for Transport legislation. However, some people do still drive through the closure when the restrictions are in place. To improve compliance, the Council would like to consult on the following options, but have included an option to leave the current arrangement as they are:



Diagram 1: Sign to prohibit motor vehicles

1. Retain the existing timed closure with a revised layout and new *Variable Signs (electronic signs displaying information like those used on motorways)*, reverting to northbound vehicles giving priority to southbound vehicles when the timed closure is not in force. The width restriction would remain.
2. Install a full timed closure for motor vehicles between Barrington Close and Kiln Place (except emergency vehicles and pedal cycles).
3. Re-open Grafton Road to two-way traffic, retaining the current layout and width restriction.
4. Do nothing - retain existing timed closure and layout.

Options 1, 2 and 4 would be installed with new, improved advance warning signs.

Details on how to respond to this consultation are detailed on the back of this leaflet.

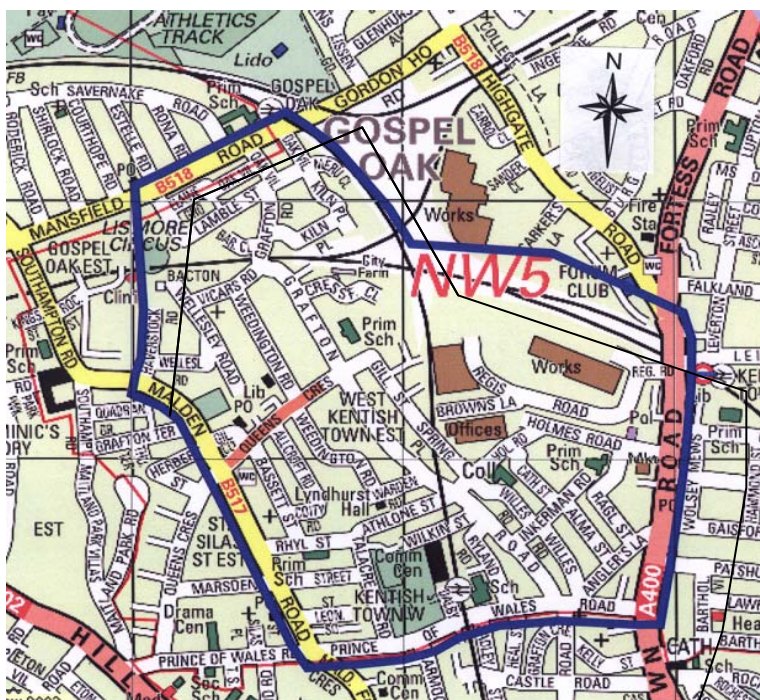
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We want your views on the options presented so that we understand which option is supported by you and this will allow us to make our recommendations. We aim to build any changes approved before the end of December 2013. The works will be paid from budgets held internally by Camden Council, which are reserved for transport projects.

Please fill out our online questionnaire at www.wearecamden.org/ or send your completed questionnaire to: **Transport Strategy Service – TS/DT/BL20mph/05/JA, RSLT-RJBR-TXAA, London Borough of Camden, Town Hall, Judd Street, London, WC1H 9JE.** The closing date for responses is **5 July 2013**. Please note no stamp is required and only **ONE** reply per household, business or organisation will be accepted. Alternatively, you can send your response by email to joanna.alker@camden.gov.uk. You must give your postal address if you want us to consider your views.

While it will not be possible to reply to you individually, all comments will be taken into account. The Cabinet Member for Sustainability will make a decision on whether or not to proceed with the scheme and you will be informed of the outcome of this consultation and the Council's decision within three months, where possible.

Under the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985, we may not treat your response confidentially, as it will be available for public inspection. Please only write to us about the consultation issue. If you want to comment on any other matter, please use a separate letter.



Who is being consulted?

All properties on affected roads outlined on the plan will be consulted along with Local and Statutory Groups, Emergency Services and Ward Members.

Please contact the following should you have any queries on the proposals detailed in this consultation leaflet.

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Thank you for replying to this consultation