



Safe and Healthy Streets consultation

King Henry's Road area traffic reduction scheme

What's the challenge in the King Henry's Road area?

The Covid-19 pandemic has changed how communities in Camden live, travel and work. We want our streets to have more space for everyone to walk and cycle, for you to be breathing cleaner air, for children to get to and from school safely and for businesses to be able to flourish. Whether it's an essential journey like taking your children to school, getting to work or just popping out to enjoy your local park we want you to love where you live, and to love Camden.

The King Henry's Road area currently experiences significant through traffic volumes, with vehicles using the area to travel between Primrose Hill Road, Adelaide Road and Avenue Road. Traffic data shows that both King Henry's Road and Elsworthy Road can each experience approximately 2000 daily vehicle movements in each direction. Combined daily total traffic volumes for both King Henry's Road and Elsworthy Road can therefore exceed 8000 vehicle movements. Traffic analysis indicates that 74% of this is through traffic - i.e. it is not accessing a property or business within the scheme area.

Traffic analysis also shows that the average speeds on King Henry's Road and Elsworthy Road is in excess of the 20mph speed limit, and that speeds through this area are some of the highest in the borough. These traffic conditions present a safety risk to some of our most vulnerable road users, such as children attending St Paul's Primary School. The King Henry's Road area also forms part of the east – west cycle route that connects South Hampstead with Camden Town. Such traffic speeds and volumes will also have a negative impact on this.

What is being proposed?

We are proposing to make changes to Elsworthy Road and King Henry's Road in order to prevent these streets from being used as a cut through between Primrose Hill Road, Adelaide Road and Avenue Road. In addition to this, we are proposing changes to the eastern end of Elsworthy Road to provide a timed Healthy School Street outside St Paul's Primary School.

We are also proposing to make changes to Primrose Hill Road to improve the safety of the existing crossing facility and to improve the pedestrian environment outside St Paul's Primary School.

The proposed changes include:

- A motor vehicle restriction on Elsworthy Road to the immediate east of the junction with Elsworthy Rise. This will address the large volumes of traffic that currently use Elsworthy Road as a through route when travelling between Primrose Hill Road, Adelaide Road and Avenue Road.
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- A motor vehicle restriction on King Henry's Road to the immediate east of the junction with Elsworthy Rise. This will address the large volumes of traffic that currently use King Henry's Road as a through route when travelling between Primrose Hill Road, Adelaide Road and Avenue Road.
- Creating a Healthy School Street for St Paul's Primary School on Elsworthy Road. This would restrict motor vehicle access into this section of Elsworthy Road between Primrose Hill Road and Elsworthy Rise between 08.00 and 09.00 in the mornings and 3.00 and 4.00 in the afternoons between Monday and Friday during term time. This will create a safer and more pleasant environment in the immediate vicinity of the school's main entrance for those accessing the school on foot or by bicycle. Residents living in this section of Elsworthy Road will be exempt from this restriction.
- The introduction of an additional zebra crossing on Primrose Hill Road to the immediate north of the junction with Oppidans Road. This will help to facilitate safe pedestrian movement across Primrose Hill Road improving access to both the school and Primrose Hill from the residential area to the east of Primrose Hill Road.
- Increased footway width adjacent to St Paul's Primary school on Primrose Hill Road. This will provide an improved pedestrian environment outside the Primrose Hill Road entrance to the school, and reduce the crossing distances for both the existing zebra crossing and the proposed second zebra crossing.
- The introduction of School Keep Clear markings and a full time waiting and loading restriction on Primrose Hill Road adjacent to St Paul's School between the existing and proposed zebra crossings. This will prevent this area from being used to collect and drop off children attending the school, which will help to create a safer pedestrian environment.

Access to all properties will still be possible by motor vehicle, except for the Healthy School Street section of Elsworthy Road during the times of restriction. Residents living in the Healthy School Street section of Elsworthy Road who own a motor vehicle will however be exempt from this restriction.

Motor vehicle access routes to some properties in the scheme area may differ as a result of the above restrictions. Please refer to the access routes map that shows the motor vehicle routes into the scheme area from the surrounding roads.

How would these changes be made?

After the consultation, we will carefully consider the responses, alongside other data and information, to help us in deciding on whether or not to progress the scheme. Should a decision be made to proceed, we would implement the changes on a "trial" basis, for a maximum 18-month period, under an Experimental Traffic Order (ETO). This would allow us to test these changes as an experiment so that we can see how they work before any decision on whether to make them permanent is made.