



Transport and Environment Cabinet Member Bulletin Councillor Stuart King December 2017

North-west Croydon (area three) – 20mph speed limit

The new 20mph speed limit for area three is now live. There are 20mph signs in place at the entry points and repeater signs within the area covered. In May 2017 the council's Traffic Management Advisory Committee recommended that the proposal be implemented and this has been completed inside six months, which is a considerable achievement by the team leading on this important project. Areas 4 and 5 are also being progressed and will go live in January and March 2018 respectively. This will then complete the Council's aspirations to introduce 20mph limits in all of our residential roads right across the borough, and fulfill a key commitment made by the administration in its 2014 Manifesto, *Ambitious for Croydon*.





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Council secures pause to TfL proposals to change tram frequency

In September, TfL started consultation on its proposal that Tram fares follow the lead of Buses and go cashless. Consultation was undertaken although only 0.3 per cent of single tram journeys are paid for with a ticket bought from a tram stop ticket machine. A month later, TfL announced without any consultation, that as of 5 November it would be implementing changes to the operation of Tramlink, the most significant of which was New Addington trams would no longer continue direct to Wimbledon. Myself, local ward councillors and Council officers expressed our considerable concern to TfL (including via the Public Transport Liaison Panel) regarding the lack of any consultation. We were also acutely aware that these changes were being announced so close to the first anniversary of the tram tragedy. Following this pressure from the council I am pleased to confirm that TfL have now put the changes on hold while they engage with relevant local stakeholders, including the council, ward councillors and passenger and transport bodies.

Air Quality Action Plan

This plan aims to secure for the people of Croydon a safer, cleaner and greener place to live and work. There is no doubt that poor air quality has a negative effect upon us all, children and vulnerable people in particular. Poor air quality is linked to reduced life expectancy from cardio-respiratory diseases and it is estimated that 9,400 deaths occur each year due to illnesses caused by long-term exposure to air

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pollution. Croydon's "share" of this figures is approximately 250. The major pollutant is nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) caused by diesel vehicles and these have been increasing on our roads. There is an air quality objective laid down by government and this is regularly being exceeded at busy roadside sites in Croydon. This plan sets out the local actions Croydon Council can take to reduce emissions and minimise exposure to air pollutants to those who live and work in Croydon.

We want to install green screens between all new schools, new developments and busy roads. Requiring construction sites to use new technology instead of diesel generators will minimise pollution and noise.

In addition extending the area of the existing Smoke Control Zone to cover the whole of the borough and requiring the installation of DEFRA approved stoves and use of smokeless fuel will reduce pollutants. Patrolling regular hotspots to request drivers of vehicles that are idling unnecessarily to switch off their engines will raise awareness of the damage to the environment and people. Creating Clean Air Champions who will volunteer to raise awareness and understanding of the problem of air quality in Croydon is a key part of the plan. Schools will also be encouraged to promote sustainable travel and increase awareness amongst parents. Children and parents will continue to be encouraged to walk to school where possible and not leave engines running outside the school.

Working towards a zero diesel fleet is another of our objectives as well as setting time restrictions on bonfires, a contributing factor to emissions of smoke and other pollutants. Encouraging pocket parks, play streets and more greenery around Croydon with priority afforded to areas with poor air quality. These are the most important actions contained in the plan which will be presented to Cabinet on 20 November and then go out to the public for further final round of statutory consultation.

Council Shortlisted in Freight Transport Association Awards for Construction Logistics

Croydon has led in air quality and freight since 2005, when we started the first South London Freight Quality Partnership. Since then we have pioneered guidance and regulation for Construction Logistics Plans. Our original documents: Code of Practice for Construction and Demolition; A practical guide to drafting a construction logistics plan; and the Construction Logistics Handbook, have become the industry standard



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and are used, copied and re-branded by many and various bodies, including other London councils and the Mayor of London.

Before our intercession most councils were not controlling air quality and noise through CLPs and we have provided CLP training courses for many councils.

We have changed attitudes to freight within councils and the industry. The public has benefitted from reduced pollution and congestion. Developers and contractors have saved money and energy. Our work in CLPs has been pioneering, imaginative, efficient and cost-effective.

Because of our hard work in this area we are now shortlisted for two industry awards:

- **Freight Transport Association**

Award: Logistics Champion of the Year for Public Services. The event is on 13 December. We have also had a further interview with the FTA about all our work around freight which seemed very positive. Good luck to the team.

- **National Air Quality Awards**

Award: Freight Transport Air Quality Initiative of the Year. The event is on the 23 November 2017.

Love Lane Winner of Playstreet Award

For the second year running, a Croydon playstreet, Love Lane in Woodside has won the competition for London Playstreet of the Year. The Brampton Road/Robert Fitzroy Academy (Addiscombe) was also short-listed.

It has been a fantastic achievement for Croydon playstreets to have this recognition. Children from both play streets attended the awards ceremony at the end of October.

If you are interested in organising a play street in your road visit:

www.croydon.gov.uk/healthsocial/families/ccfpartnership/playstreets or contact cfp@croydon.gov.uk for more information.



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Love Lane children receiving their award (photograph courtesy of London Play)

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