

## Public FAQs

**Q: What is the purpose of the proposed changes?**

**A:** These changes aim to make Chatsworth Road safer, greener and more accessible for everyone – whether you're walking, cycling, using public transport or driving.

The changes aim to create more choice for residents on how they can travel by making the walking and cycling environment more accessible, bringing the 308 bus service to the King's Park Ward on Sundays, and maintaining vehicle access to properties.

The changes primarily work by removing traffic which is using Chatsworth Road as a rat run between Lea Bridge Road and Homerton High Street.

**Q: Why has this area been chosen for these changes?**

**A:** To date, over 70% of eligible roads in Hackney are covered by a low traffic zone and the Chatsworth Road area remains one of the few residential areas without low levels of traffic.

Chatsworth Road is one of the key routes into the King's Park Ward and an access route to the town centre as well as Homerton Hospital. The proposals aim to make these destinations more accessible by walking, cycling and public transport. Brooksby's Walk outside the hospital also has high records of nitrogen dioxide, and Chatsworth Road Town Centre has a history of road traffic collisions.

**Q: Why aren't residents or businesses granted an exemption to the bus gate?**

**A:** Our starting point is for streets to be as simple and predictable for drivers as possible, without concern of digital exclusion or permit literacy.

The scheme proposes to replicate similar low traffic neighbourhoods in the borough, whereby only residents who are Hackney blue badge holders or Taxicard holders are exempt from the proposed traffic filter on Chatsworth Road. Permitting more vehicles to travel through the filter would undermine the aims of the scheme.

**Q: Who will be exempt from the traffic restrictions?**

**A:** The bus gate will permit local buses, emergency vehicles, Hackney refuse vehicles, HAC01 permit holders and pedal cycles to continue to pass southwards from Chatsworth Road into Brooksby's Walk and onto Homerton High Street.

HAC01 permit holders include Hackney blue badge holders and Taxicard holders.

**Q: How can I register for a HAC01 permit?**

**A:** View our webpage here for more information and the application form for the free HAC01 permit. <https://hackney.gov.uk/blue-badge>

**Q: What will be the impact on emergency services?**

**A:** Emergency services will be exempt to the bus gate on Chatsworth Road, meaning they can continue to travel southwards along Chatsworth Road to Homerton High Street.

We always consult with emergency services before introducing changes to road layouts to ensure they are not restricted from providing vital services to residents.

**Q: What will the changes mean for cyclists?**

**A:** With the bus gate and a 20mph speed limit in operation, conditions for cyclists on Chatsworth Road will be improved. Improving safety conditions for cycling on Chatsworth Road is a priority for the proposed design.

**Q: What measures will be in place to monitor the impact of the changes on traffic and air quality?**

**A:** Traffic counts have been done on Chatsworth Road, surrounding main roads and residential roads. Further traffic counts would be done after implementation as part of monitoring. There is a wide spread of air quality monitoring devices across the borough including on Chatsworth Road, main roads and some residential roads. For more information on air quality monitoring locations and results, visit:

[hackney.gov.uk/air-quality](https://hackney.gov.uk/air-quality)

**Q: What specific benefits do you expect the proposed changes to bring?**

**A:** Cycling and walking become safer and easier on Chatsworth Road and nearby roads, traffic is reduced, journey times for buses and ambulances improve, and the area becomes a better place to visit and shop, including on market day.

**Q: What measures will be taken to ensure local residents and businesses are kept informed throughout the process?**

**A:** The following measures have been taken so far to include and inform local residents and businesses:

- Paper copies of a travel survey, travel survey results, and now the consultation on the proposals, have been posted to over 16,000 residents.
- Targeted social media.
- Drop ins and pop ups offered throughout the consultation period to hear from people who live, work in and visit the area.
- Updates to the FAQs on the consultation webpage during the consultation period.

After the consultation ends, a summary of the consultation results will be published at <https://consultation.hackney.gov.uk/streetscene/help-shape-the-future-of-chatsworth-road/> and any decision on next steps for the proposals following the consultation will be communicated with local residents and businesses.

**Q: Will there be opportunities to make adjustments to the scheme based on feedback after implementation?**

**A:** Yes. The purpose of this consultation is to gather views on the proposed changes and gain a greater understanding of their potential impacts. Responses to the consultation will be taken into account as part of the detailed design process.

**Q: What is the timeline for implementing these changes?**

**A:** Subject to statutory processes and degree of changes required to the proposals following the consultation, the Council would aim to begin implementation of the proposals in Summer 2025.