

## Mare Street Cycle Link between London Lane and St Thomas's Square Quietway 2: Bloomsbury to Walthamstow

Public Consultation

December 2016





### What is this document about?

This consultation document is about gathering views from the public on proposals to improve the crossing facility for cyclists across Mare Street, between London Lane and St Thomas's Square.

# Why are changes being proposed for this area?

The Council is committed to making Hackney's roads safer for everyone living, working and visiting the borough. Creating an environment that will encourage more walking and cycling is a key part of the Council's transport vision and an essential part of Hackney's Transport Strategy.

In spring 2013 the Mayor of London published his Cycling Vision for London – a 10 year strategy with approximately £1bn of investment, to increase the levels of cycling in London. One of the primary objectives of the strategy is to create a "tube network for the bike" – a mixture of fast commuter cycle routes offering dedicated cycle facilities on key main routes, complemented by a number of "Quietways", which together will form a network of direct, joined-up cycle routes throughout London.

Within the borough, Quietway 2: Bloomsbury to Walthamstow starts at the boundary with Islington by Southgate Road and runs eastwards to London Fields via Middleton Road, and then north-eastwards to Lea Bridge Road and the boundary with Waltham Forest.

One of the key objectives of the Quietway routes is to link destinations, following backstreet routes, through parks, along waterways or treelined streets. The Quietways aim to overcome barriers to cycling, targeting cyclists who want to use quieter, low-traffic routes and providing an environment for those who want to travel at a gentler pace.

A number of key issues have been identified along the route and Transport for London (TfL) has provided the Council with funding to make improvements. These include improving or upgrading specific locations such as junctions and crossings in order to improve safety and visibility and reduce the potential for accidents.

Hackney Council is now consulting residents and businesses on a proposal to provide a safer link

for cyclists using the Quietway 2 route across Mare Street.

In addition to meeting the objectives of the 'Quietways', encouraging the use of cleaner and greener transport options (particularly cycling and walking) and reducing non-essential private car journeys are key long-term objectives for the Council due to the wide range of benefits these transport options can bring, including:

- Reducing road accidents
- Improving personal mobility
- Creating safer, cleaner, and quieter residential neighbourhoods
- Creating a successful balance between pedestrians and other modes of transport, in order to improve the pedestrian and cyclist experience
- Improving pedestrian and cyclist crossing facilities

More information on the Quietways can be found at:

https://tfl.gov.uk/travel-information/ improvements-and-projects/quietways

## The proposals include:

- **a**. Closing London Lane at its junction with Mare Street to all traffic except cyclists and emergency vehicles. This will provide a safer junction for all users. The junction will be raised and narrowed to improve pedestrian accessibility and encourage cyclists to slow down when approaching Mare Street. Bollards will be installed to prevent vehicles from using the junction illegally.
  - **b**. An alternative measure could be to install a raised junction as above with 'No Entry' for vehicles from Mare Street. Vehicles would be allowed to turn left from London Lane, but right turns would be banned to keep the central refuge clear for cyclists.
- 2 The Quietway route between London Lane and the north side of St Thomas's Square crosses Mare Street. All traffic can enter St Thomas's Square (north) from Mare Street. Motor vehicles will be banned from turning right when exiting the north side of St Thomas's Square, but cycles will be allowed to turn right.
- 3 The existing islands on Mare Street will be widened to provide a safer central refuge space for cyclists waiting to cross the carriageway.
- (4) There will be a new island on Mare Street to protect cyclists turning right on to the northern arm of St Thomas's Square. Extra protection is needed as other vehicles travelling north on Mare Street are also able to turn right (see point 2. above)
- Lower Clapton Road parallel zebra and cycle crossings
- Morning Lane parallel zebra and cycle crossings
- London Fields/Middleton Road Traffic Management Scheme

For more information on these schemes visit **https://consultation.hackney.gov.uk** 

#### How to have your say

Your views are important to us and will help shape our decision making.

- A questionnaire has been provided for you to give your views so that the Council can make an informed decision.
- Please read and return your completed questionnaire in the **FREEPOST** envelope or online by **6 January 2017**.
- Alternatively, if you wish to complete the questionnaire online, visit https://consultation.hackney.gov.uk

## Information

For further information on these proposals,
please contact us at: Hackney Service Centre by calling: 020 8356 2897 or by emailing:
info@hackney.gov.uk

## What happens next?

The consultation results will help us reach a decision on whether to proceed with these proposals in your area. The Council will publish the consultation results and decision at **https://consultation.hackney.gov.uk.** Should the Council agree to proceed with these proposals, residents and businesses nearby will receive a notification. Public notices will also be displayed, giving the date works will start.

Thank you for taking the time to reply to this consultation.

If you would like to find out what this document says please tick the appropriate box, put your name, address and phone number at the bottom of this page and return it to the address below.

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