

**Vaughan Road area
Low Traffic Neighbourhood Scheme
Project Update and Improvements**

23 December 2020

Dear Resident

We are writing to you to update you on the Vaughan Road area Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN). Since our last letter we have been working with the emergency services to see how the trial schemes, which aim to cut heavy and non-local traffic on residential streets, can be improved.

Our conversations with the emergency services this week have confirmed the positive news that all the services have continued to meet their statutory target response times in the borough. This means that for the Ambulance Service, the Fire Brigade and the Police, that the LTNs have not caused them to respond in a time period that has put any Harrow residents at risk.

The discussions with them focused on the current situation with the Covid-19 pandemic and the usual winter pressures. With London and the South East entering Tier 4 restrictions from 20 December and infection rates rising significantly in Harrow, the concern is that this could impact severely on the resources of the emergency services when dealing with additional cases. The need to support our emergency service partners is a priority for the Council, particularly in the run up to Christmas when services may be over stretched.

We have therefore decided to make immediate improvements to the Vaughan Road area LTN by changing the positioning of the planters on The Gardens and on Blenheim Road by Bladon Gardens to give emergency vehicles free access to all roads within the LTN. The Council will make this change today (Wednesday 23 December).

For now, **access will only be given to Emergency Services and bicycles** – under the current traffic order it is an offence for any other vehicle to pass through the LTN road closures/barriers. Clear signage will be installed to warn motorists, indicating that access is for emergency vehicles only. We hope drivers will respect this change in the coming weeks. We will deploy our mobile CCTV vehicles to monitor the LTN zone in the short term prior to the development of future proposals for the scheme in the new year.

We are carrying out monthly reviews of the LTN schemes to understand their impact. This includes feedback from residents, ward councillors and the emergency services. The December review (based on data collected in November) and any proposed changes to the schemes will be presented at a newly scheduled Traffic and Road Safety Advisory Panel (TARSAP) meeting on Monday 11 January at 6:30pm. The reports are posted online at harrow.gov.uk/streetspace.

Thank you to everyone who has taken part in the engagement process so far. Please do continue to feedback your thoughts and experiences of the Vaughan Road area LTN on the Commonplace portal at <https://harrowstreetspace.trials.commonplace.is> For the latest information and messages, follow Harrow Council on our social media channels: Facebook @lbharrow, Twitter @harrow_council, and on Instagram @harrowcouncil.

We wish you a peaceful Christmas and a happy and healthy new year. Please stay safe and take every precaution to do so.

Yours sincerely,



David Eaglesham
Head of Traffic, Highways & Asset Management