

HYDE PARK

MATTERS

Get in touch!

News from your local Conservative Councillors

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Printed & promoted by James Cockram, on behalf of Westminster Conservatives, all at 90 Ebury Street, Westminster, SW1W 9QD

£378,000 SECURED FOR TRAFFIC CALMING AND PEDESTRIAN SAFETY WORKS

We know that traffic on the Hyde Park Estate has increased since the reworking of the Lancaster Gate gyratory.

Hyde Park Ward Councillors and residents warned Transport for London (TfL), Mayor Khan's transport agency, that this would happen. TfL's assurances that changes in traffic phasing would ensure this was not the case have not materialised.

So we as ward councillors drew on our ward budget to fund a feasibility study to look at how to calm traffic and improve pedestrian safety. We consulted with residents' associations on the measures and are very pleased to have secured £378,000 from the Community Infrastructure Levy to design and implement the amended proposals.

The aim of the measures is to provide better and safer crossing facilities for pedestrians and vulnerable road users, improve motorists' lane discipline and deter the cutting of junctions.

Proposals

- Strathearn Place junction with Sussex Square – Zebra Crossing
- Connaught Street/Hyde Park Street/Hyde Park Square – Junction Improvements
- Zebra crossing on Hyde Park Street, north of junction with Connaught Street.
- Improved crossing over Connaught Street at junction with Hyde Park Square.
- Adjustment of pedestrian refuge islands to tighten the approach for northbound vehicles on Hyde Park Street
- Clarendon Place – pedestrian refuge islands
- Hyde Park Crescent, pedestrian islands at junctions
- Improved 'No Through Road' signage at Oxford Square/Titchbourne Row
- Double Yellow Lines at dropped kerbs and corners

We invited the TfL Cycling Commissioner to see the bottlenecks at Lancaster Gate and asked him to look at changes to lanes and signage for eastbound traffic which would deter rat-running along Stanhope Terrace. We are asking TfL for their proposals.

The requests from the Hyde Park Estate Association and the Church Commissioners, backed by our own surveys, show support for a 20mph limit throughout the Hyde Park Estate, following its success in Connaught Square and other areas piloted near schools. The Hyde Park Estate is top of the list for consideration of more schemes across Westminster.



Improving care at home when you need it

We want to make sure all our elderly get the best care possible.

Westminster City Council set up a new team earlier this year to work both with organisations providing care for people at home, and with residential care homes. The aim was to improve quality of care and the work is beginning to show results.

Two organisations providing care at home (Bluebird Care and the Westminster Society) have been rated recently as "Outstanding" - meaning they are giving the highest standard of care possible.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) rates all our care homes, home care organisations, hospitals and NHS general practices. The CQC publishes these ratings so you can always find out what the standards are.



Have your say at westm.news/HydeParkSurvey

You asked, we delivered

- You said you hate filthy phone boxes. We have planning inspectors assessing whether the four at the south end of Westbourne Street are ever used, so we can get BT to clean them up or take them away.
- We were all inconvenienced by Thames Water's closure of Sussex Place. After repeated lobbying we got them to finish the work.

More school choice and opportunity for families

Local families now have an excellent new school available to them next to Paddington Station.

Marylebone Boys' School has a Christian ethos and is open to boys of all faiths and none, was founded by local families and volunteers to help boys to achieve their full academic potential.

There are high expectations of achievement and behaviour for all. An extended school day allows a rich programme of sports, music and other extra-curricular activities. The school has been consistently oversubscribed since it opened in 2014.

Now in a purpose-built, state-of-the-art building in North Wharf Road, the secondary school has nearly 600 pupils in Years 7 to 11 and is opening a sixth form for both boys and girls in September 2019. The site is part of a Westminster City Council development providing 197 affordable housing units. Marylebone Boys' School is funded by the Department for Education under the free schools programme.

Improving Air Quality

Air quality is a top priority for our residents.

Your council has launched the following initiatives in our area:

- A schools clean air fund. Primary schools will be able to bid for funds to create "no pollution zones" to reduce harmful emissions around schools.
- Anti-engine idling campaigns with £80 fines for offenders.
- Widening pavements to improve pedestrian experience.

Councillor Ian Adams says: "Air quality is a top priority in our area. The LEN is a long-term initiative which means that in the future we will monitor outcomes and adapt our policies where necessary."

Keeping things neighbourly with the Royal Parks



We've continued to work with the Royal Parks, the BBC Proms and AEG Live, the concert contractor, to make sure noise and litter problems are kept to a minimum (see map for where you should see litter removed after the concerts).

We've also lobbied for the other parks in outer areas to take more of their fair share of the fundraising burden. More than 9 out of 10 Westminster residents live in flats, mostly with little green space, so access to Hyde Park really matters. Hyde Park should not have to generate an ever more disproportionate share of commercial revenue for the Royal Parks' needs.

Oxford Street Improvement Project

Westminster City Council rejected the Mayor of London's seriously misguided plans for the pedestrianisation of Oxford Street after a thorough review following consultation with residents and businesses.

There are better solutions to secure the future of Oxford Street, future-proof retail, improve air quality and pedestrian safety.

Westminster Council are working hard on our own Oxford Street District Improvement Scheme. It covers a wide area and takes a long term strategic view on how the area will change. A proposed scheme will be unveiled soon and go out to consultation. Westminster will invest £150 million over the next three years.

We will want your views on our new strategy for the Oxford Street District when we go out to public consultation in November.

In order to keep local residents, businesses, employees and visitors updated, the Council have launched a brand new website: www.osd.london.

The website will provide details of the Council's proposals for the Oxford Street district when they are ready, as well as information about the consultation when it launches in November and how you can give your views.