LET US KNOW YOUR VIEWS
Please complete and return the pre-paid questionnaire (no stamps required) with any further comments by 5 August 2011.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT
A Notice of the Council’s intentions to introduce the above measures will be published in the local newspaper and posted on lamp columns in the vicinity. Representations for and against must be made in writing to the Head of Street Scene and Waste Management Division, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey, SM4 5DX no later than 5 August 2011 quoting reference ES/SGE/SWBA

The outcome of the consultation along with officers’ recommendations will be presented either to the Cabinet Member for Environmental Sustainability and Regeneration or the Street Management Advisory Committee on 20 September 2012 for a decision.

Please note that responses to any representation received will not be made until a final decision is made by the Cabinet Member. The Council is required to give weight to the nature and content of your representations and not necessarily the quantity. Your reasons are, therefore, important to us.

A copy of the draft TMO, a plan identifying the area affected by the proposals and the Council’s ‘Statement of Reasons’ can be inspected at Donald Hope Library, Colliers Wood and at Merton Link, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden, Surrey during the Council’s working hours, Monday to Friday, between 9am and 5pm. Alternatively, this information can be viewed on Merton Council’s website, www.merton.gov.uk/swba

CONTACT US
If you require further information, please contact Ashley Heller on 020 8545 4675 or by email ashley.heller@merton.gov.uk.

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**South Wimbledon Business Area**

**Bus Route 470**

**ISSUE DATE : 14 JULY 2011**

Dear Resident / Business,

There has been a long standing proposal to introduce bus Route 470 from Colliers Wood along Liberty Avenue, Windsor Avenue and Jubilee Way, in place of the current route along Merantun Way, which has no footpath for the majority of its length. It is considered that this route will better serve local people including the South Wimbledon Business Area, which is a key local employment centre.

In January 2011, Transport for London (TfL) consulted with bus users, residents and other stakeholders including the Council, traffic police, London TravelWatch, Members of Parliament, Assembly Members and local interested groups on the proposals to alter the Route 470 so that it runs along Liberty Avenue, Windsor Avenue and Jubilee Way instead of Merantun Way.

At the close of the consultation period, there were 176 public and 5 stakeholder responses. The full consultation result is available on TfL’s website, www.consultation.tfl.gov.uk. Of the respondents, 63% were in favour of the proposed changes and 32% against. 55% of respondents would use the service from the new roads served, so TfL is working with the Council to progress the scheme. The main concern of the 32% respondents who were not in favour of the scheme was the reduced access to the shops at Colliers Wood. Other contributing factors for residents not supporting the proposals included the proposed changes to the width restriction on Liberty Avenue, and having bus stops outside their properties.

The borough, as the highway authority, is very aware of the concerns of local residents of the impact of allowing a bus through the width restriction over the bridge across the River Wandle. As such, a detailed evaluation by independent traffic consultants was carried out to determine the most effective way of allowing bus access while minimising rat running of larger vehicles. Following this evaluation, the borough considers the following approach to be the most appropriate:

- CCTV traffic enforcement to prevent encroachment into the bus lane facility by other vehicles, while allowing the bus to serve the local residents and businesses
- The use of a physical height restriction designed for the type of bus that will be used on the Route 470 (The height restriction has been assessed in terms of safety and resilience on the public highway).

**PROPOSALS**

1. New priority bus height restriction in the middle of the carriageway lane, at the existing width restriction on Windsor Avenue/ Liberty Avenue. Buses will be able to pass through this restriction in both directions, giving way to general traffic before re-joining the main carriageway.
2. New width restriction on both sides of the proposed bus height restriction.
3. Removal of the existing cycle by-pass on both sides of the existing width restriction.
4. CCTV traffic enforcement camera to be monitored by the borough’s enforcement officers.
5. Bus stops as shown on the plan overleaf.

The introduction of the restrictions (width or height restrictions) is subject to a statutory consultation and your representations must be in terms of these measures. Please note the the introduction of the bus route is not subject to a statutory consultation. However, all comments regarding the bus route will be considered and reported to the Cabinet Member for a decision.