



28th September, 2017

**Dear Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre,**

### **Crossrail 2 update/Wimbledon Police Station**

Last month, representatives of FoWTC held an information-sharing meeting with Jennifer Bryden, Local Engagement Manager for Crossrail 2 (South) and Maddy Williams (working on Crossrail 2 from Network Rail).

The Crossrail 2 representatives confirmed that:

- The next public consultation on the new railway will commence following Government approval of TfL's revised business case. The ball is currently in TfL's court – to examine ways of improving the overall affordability of the scheme and the proportion of construction costs to be funded by the Mayor.
- Subject to agreement on financing, **the next consultation is most likely to start in January 2018.**
- The situation in Wimbledon is recognised by Crossrail 2 to be 'unique' because of the scale of work required and its impact on the Town Centre. TfL is already working with Merton Council to mitigate the impact of the construction works, so that Wimbledon can continue to function.
- Land and property required for CR2 work will be obtained by compulsory purchase order where necessary. After construction of the railway, surplus land will be sold by CR2 to be used or developed in line with the Council's planning framework.

- Suggestions made during the 2015/16 consultation have been investigated, some in detail and at considerable expense.
- The next set of consultation proposals will present a preferred option for Wimbledon, plus three other options with an analysis which demonstrates why these are not preferred. It is not impossible that one of the non-preferred options could be selected following the consultation exercise.
- When the consultation proposals are published, information will be provided online, in hard-copy documents and at 'drop-in events' (like the displays outside Morrisons in the winter of 2015/16).
- Because of the scale of impact on Wimbledon Town Centre, CR2 accepts that there is also a need to hold **at least one town-hall style meeting in Wimbledon** during the eight-week consultation period (a point strongly made by FoWTC).

Once the timing of consultation is clearer, we will be in touch to let you know how you can contribute.

### **The Mayor's Transport Strategy**

Crossrail 2 is a central feature of the Mayor of London's overall transport strategy, as set out in a series of documents published for consultation – see link below:

<https://consultations.tfl.gov.uk/policy/mayors-transport-strategy/#question2017-05-150163921214-factbanksubquestion>

The documents are voluminous and the best introduction is the video summary of the Mayor's strategy and/or the executive summary.

The online survey questions are very high level – questions 3, 4, 11-16, 17, 18 and 19 are probably the most relevant to Crossrail.

You can respond to the survey online or in writing **by 2 October 2017**.

### **Wimbledon Police Station – a reminder**

In July, we flagged up the Mayor's proposals to close half of London's police stations and investigate more crimes by telephone and online. Wimbledon police station is one of those earmarked for closure.

You may already have registered your views on this by contacting Stephen Hammond MP or your local ward councillors.

However, if you object, your representation will carry more weight sent individually than as part of a collective response, so it's worth responding to the Mayor's consultation directly by sending an email to [consultation@mopac.london.gov.uk](mailto:consultation@mopac.london.gov.uk) or in writing to:

Public Access Consultation  
MOPAC

City Hall  
The Queen's Walk  
London SE1 2AA

**Key Points:** If you believe that Wimbledon Police Station should remain open, you may wish to consider making the following points:

1. The sale of the Wimbledon police station site would leave Wimbledon without a corps of police officers stationed in the town centre. The town centre has a large and growing night-time economy, which needs active policing. Sadly, anti-social behaviour is increasingly prevalent, especially at weekends. Wimbledon is also a major transport hub (which will be bigger still if Crossrail 2 goes ahead). Furthermore, it hosts the tennis championships, which attract visitors from all over the world and make Wimbledon a potential terrorist target.
2. The recent terrorist attack at Parsons Green on the District Line train from Wimbledon strengthens the argument for a strong force of police officers based in Wimbledon.
3. Wimbledon police station is an historic building, dating from around 1900 and built of red brick with white stone detailing. It is locally listed and, unlike other historic civic and public buildings in the town centre (e.g. the town hall and fire station), it hasn't been gutted or reduced to a façade and is still used for its original purpose.
4. **Above all, please be sure to state somewhere in the text 'I disagree strongly with the proposed closure of Wimbledon Police Station.'**

**The deadline for responses to the Mayor's police station consultation is 5.30pm on 6 October.**

If you wish to sign a petition, then you can find on-line opportunities to do so by searching the internet.

#### **VERY URGENT! Rose Cottage, will you sign the petition?**

For more information about the campaign to save this part of the historic Hamilton estate and restore the façade, go to <https://www.change.org/p/planning-representations-merton-gov-uk-save-rose-cottage-one-of-the-oldest-houses-in-south-wimbledon>

Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre is concerned that this could be just one example, to be followed by many more, of historic buildings lost to neglect followed by demolition. A dangerous precedent could be set. The deadline for comments to the council is 30th September, though we'd encourage you to send in representations after this date if necessary, by emailing [planning.representations@merton.gov.uk](mailto:planning.representations@merton.gov.uk) using the reference 17/P3242. You may wish to mention the possible infringement, if the application is approved, of Council "Policy ST18 Heritage" which states that:

*The Council will protect, preserve or enhance all aspects of the historic environment, including its*

*conservation areas, statutory and locally listed buildings, scheduled ancient monuments, historic parks and gardens, and archaeological sites.*

For latest updates, visit our website at <http://www.wimbledoncentre.com> or follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

**Yours sincerely,**  
**Gay Bennett-Powell**  
**Secretary,**  
**Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre**

### **Donations**

Thank you to everyone who has donated to our campaign. We rely on donations and will need more funds for our campaigns when there are new proposals from CR2 and from Merton Council.

If you would like to donate, you can do this either:

1. **Online via PayPal using your own credit or debit card, or your PayPal account. Details are on our website – Please click here for our website where you can click through to the PayPal page:** <http://www.wimbledoncentre.com/donate.html>  
**Or:**
2. **By sending a cheque made payable to Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre Ltd to: Friends of Wimbledon Town Centre, 72A Queen's Road, London SW19 8LR. Please let us have your name and address and email address so we can acknowledge your payment.**

Don't forget to ask your friends to join us!

Visit our website at <http://www.wimbledoncentre.com>

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You are receiving this email because you expressed an interest in our Crossrail 2 campaign.

**Our mailing address is:**

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