

a renewed high street for Sydenham

tell us your views



Questionnaire inside
have your say



A renewed high street for Sydenham

Lewisham Council has developed plans to enhance Sydenham Road and Kirkdale from Westwood Hill to Mayow Road. We would like to know what you think about them.

Exhibition

An exhibition explaining the proposal will be displayed in the window of the Naborhood Centre, 44a Sydenham Road, SE26, throughout May. If you would like to view the proposals in more detail with the designers and council staff present then come along to the Naborhood Centre:

- **Thursday 15 May, 5-8pm**
- **Saturday 17 May, 10am-2pm**

Public forums

A public forum will be held at the Naborhood Centre, Saturday 17 May, 2-4pm. A second forum will be held on Thursday 22 May, 7-9pm for those who can't make the first.

If you have views on the proposals, please take a few minutes to complete the questionnaire at the end of this leaflet. This questionnaire, along with the public forum, is your chance to tell us your views.

What do we hope to achieve?

Sydenham high street is busy and has to meet the needs of a wide range of users - from shoppers to those passing through. We are aiming to create a greater sense of place. Our overall goals are to:

- enhance the general street environment
- improve the quality of the route to Sydenham station
- improve the environment for shoppers and people waiting for buses
- reduce the dominance of vehicles
- improve walking links to the high street
- make the high street more cycle-friendly.

We want to make the high street a better place to linger and shop, balanced with its role as a major route for through travel.

What's happened so far?

We obtained funding from Transport for London to develop plans to enhance part of Sydenham Road. We started in 2006 by gathering information including the views of local people and other stakeholders. This information was discussed and views explored in more detail at the public forum held in March 2007.

What do local people think?

The above showed that local people:

- feel strongly about Sydenham's high street
- have a variety of views and differing priorities, which often conflict with each other
- frequently use the high street.

The full reports are available at

www.lewisham.gov.uk/TransportAndStreets/ConsultationPolicy/TransportConsultationArchive/TransportConsultationsArchiveHZ/SydenhamTransportConsultations.htm

or can be read at Sydenham Library and Kirkdale Bookshop.

We are now consulting local residents, businesses and other stakeholders in order to refine our proposals and prepare final designs.

What area is covered?

Our main proposals include Kirkdale and Sydenham Road from Westwood Hill to Mayow Road.

We are also developing proposals for Station Approach and discussing them with Network Rail, which owns this street. The proposals for Station Approach will be exhibited and consulted on separately when the necessary formal agreements have been made with Network Rail.



Key

-  indicative tree location (subject to trial excavation etc)
-  area planned to be subject of later stage consultation
-  raised carriageway area
-  new granite paving
-  new concrete paving

We also propose small-scale improvements in streets in the wider area, particularly to help pedestrians travelling to and from the high street, including replacing the most worn and damaged footways and renewing street lighting.



What are the proposals within the high street generally?

More space for people

We are proposing to create new 'pocket squares' by the Naborhood Centre and at Venner Road. Our aspiration is that Station Approach also be designed more as a public square, with this and the Venner Road square potentially hosting markets and other events from time to time.

Range of materials

We are proposing to use simple materials:

- new concrete paving
- granite for parking bays and the entry to side roads
- granite and new concrete paving within the 'pocket squares'.



Less clutter and better coordination

We intend to remove pedestrian guardrails and put the CCTV cameras and traffic signals onto lamp columns wherever we can. Some street furniture will have to remain. We intend to coordinate better new street lights, bus shelters, cycle racks, advertising panels and other necessary street furniture.

Cleaner lines

Our proposals take away the 'footway build-outs' to give straighter and cleaner footway and carriageway edges. We plan to construct on-street parking bays in granite paving, rather than using the current build-outs and painted markings.

Trees

We had hoped to introduce lots of trees. However the number of underground gas, water, electricity and other services allows little opportunity to plant trees in Sydenham Road and Kirkdale. Thus we hope to plant trees in groups in the 'pocket squares'.

Parking

When we began this process, we had no plans to change the parking arrangements in Sydenham Road. However our proposals include a new signal-controlled pedestrian crossing on Sydenham Road at Venner Road which requires changes to parking at this point. Parking lost from this part of Sydenham Road would largely be replaced by new short-term parking within Station Approach. Overall the amount of parking bay space in Sydenham Road itself and the side road returns will remain about the same.

20mph street

We propose raising the carriageway at a number of key pedestrian crossing points and using other measures to encourage maximum traffic speeds of 20mph.

What are the proposals at key locations?

Cobbs Corner

We looked very hard at the possibility of replacing the roundabout at the junction of Westwood Hill and Kirkdale (Cobbs Corner) with traffic signals. We tested many options. However, all of them would make traffic conditions much worse. We propose to rebuild the roundabout in granite and make other changes shown below.



We are discussing with the owners of the Greyhound how the pub forecourt might be included within the overall street design concept.



Railway bridge and station area

We considered the position of the zebra crossing by Station Approach very carefully. There is no perfect location for a pedestrian crossing on the high street near the station.

We propose to remove the zebra crossing from the bridge and replace it with a signal-controlled pedestrian/cycle toucan crossing at the junction with Venner Road. This requires moving the point at which Venner Road is closed to motor vehicles northwards to the junction with Sydenham Road. We also propose to widen footways on the bridge and on the approaches to it. We propose to build a central island in the road near the bookshop to help people cross Kirkdale just west of the bridge.



‘Pocket squares’ in Venner Road and Station Approach

We propose to create a ‘pocket square’ at the northern end of Venner Road surfaced in granite and new concrete paving and planted with a few trees. Some of the existing parking bays in this part of Venner Road would be moved to the end of the ‘pocket square’ and become longer-stay parking bays.

We want to connect this space visually with Station Approach by raising the carriageway in Sydenham Road and using a contrasting surface. In Station Approach we would like to:

- reduce the amount of parking, and manage what remains as short stay, minicab and disabled ‘blue badge’ parking
- reconstruct the street as a shared vehicle and pedestrian space
- allow a market to operate from time to time
- introduce trees.

We are discussing our proposals with Network Rail, owners of Station Approach. Although Network Rail shares our aspirations, they have not yet formally agreed to us managing the street, so we plan to exhibit designs for Station Approach separately and to consult on them in the near future.

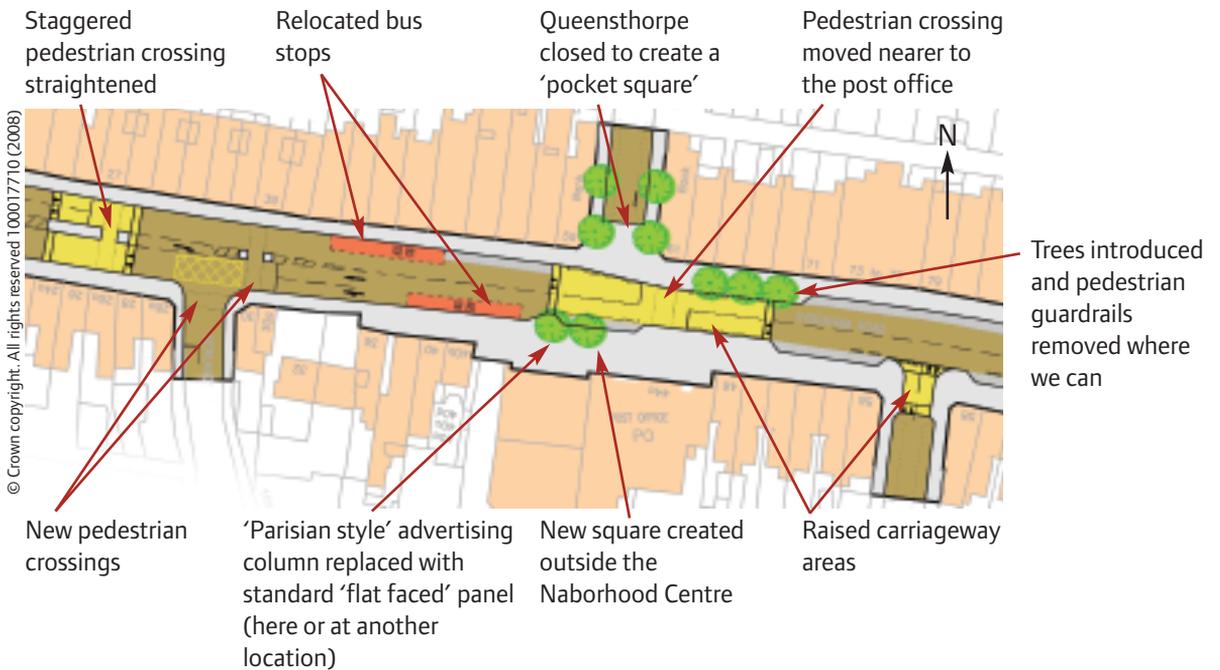


Newlands Park junction and post office area

Our proposals include:

- 'straight across' pedestrian crossings on all three arms of the Newlands Park traffic signal junction
- a new 'pocket square' outside the Naborhood Centre
- closing Queensthorpe Road at its junction with Sydenham Road and moving the pelican crossing on Sydenham Road nearer to the post office.

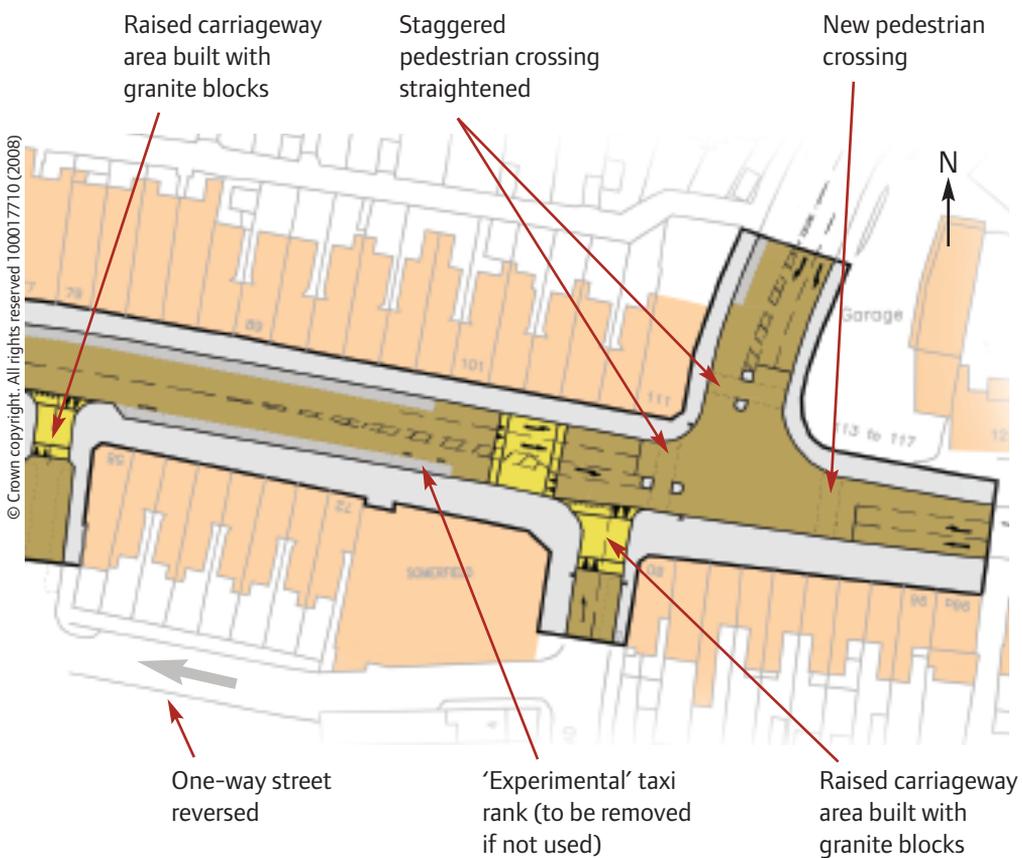
Alternatively Queensthorpe could be left open and the pelican crossing kept where it is.



Mayow Road junction

Our proposals include:

- two traffic lanes on the Mayow Road approach to the junction to reduce queuing in Mayow Road and hence the temptation for drivers to 'rat run' through 'the Thorpes'
- 'straight across' pedestrian crossings on all three arms of the traffic signal junction



Further along Sydenham Road

Transport for London is also providing funding to improve safety, cycling provision and bus stops along the remainder of Sydenham Road. Proposals will be published later in the year. These will be of a smaller scale than our proposals for the high street.

Have **your** say

Please take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire and return it to us by **2 June 2008**.

All you need to do is answer the questions, tear off the questionnaire, fold it and put it in the postbox. The address is on the reverse and you do not need a stamp.

Please write clearly, using capitals. You do not have to give your name, but any personal details you provide will help us with our analysis. Your opinion is valuable to us. Thank you!

What happens next?

The results of this questionnaire and those of safety audits and other assessments will be used to help us finalise our proposals. The Lewisham Mayor and Cabinet will then be asked to approve a request to Transport for London for funding to carry them out.

Would you like more information?

If you have any questions or want more information visit us online at www.lewisham.gov.uk/TransportAndStreets

Or write to us at:

Transport Policy and Development
London Borough of Lewisham
Wearside Service Centre
Wearside Road
Lewisham SE13 7EZ

For general information, contact Imogen Payami on 020 8314 2235.

What do **you**
think?



1. Tear along perforation 2. Moisten gummed strip 3. Fold

**Thank you for completing this
questionnaire and letting us
know what you think.**

1. Your name

2. Your address

(This is important as it tells us how close you live to the high street and station, or where your business is located on the high street.)

Postcode

3. Overall, do you agree with the proposal?

Please mark with a cross on the bar opposite where your opinion sits between 'Strongly Agree' and 'Strongly Disagree'. (e.g. |-----X-----|)

Strongly agree

Strongly disagree

|-----|

If you disagree, please explain why at point 6, on the opposite page.

4. Do you agree with the various parts of the proposal?

Please refer to the drawings and mark with a cross on the bar opposite where your opinion sits between 'Strongly Agree' and 'Strongly Disagree'. If you disagree, please explain why at point 6, on the opposite page.

Strongly agree

Strongly disagree

a) The proposals for Cobbs Corner (the junction of Kirkdale and Westwood Hill) including the signal-controlled crossing in Kirkdale and the signal-controlled junction at Westwood Hill and Lawrie Park Road

|-----|

b) Installing a new toucan signal crossing on Sydenham Road by Venner Road

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c) Creating a 'pocket square' at the northern end of Venner Road

|-----|

d) Installing straight pedestrian crossings on all arms of the junction of Newlands Park and Sydenham Road

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e) Creating a 'pocket square' outside the post office and Naborhood Centre

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f) Closing Queensthorpe Road at its junction with Sydenham Road and moving the pelican crossing nearer to the post office

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g) Installing straight pedestrian crossings on all arms of the junction of Mayow Road and Sydenham Road, and creating two approach traffic lanes in Mayow Road

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h) Improving the streetscape (higher quality materials and street furniture, better coordinated street furniture, tree planting etc)

|-----|

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For translation, please provide your details below:

Për përkthim, ju lutemi shkruajini më poshtë detajet tuaja:

Pour la traduction, veuillez fournir les détails ci-dessous:

若需翻译, 请您提供下列详情:

Wixii ku saabsan turjumaad, fadlan hoos ku qor faahfaahintaada:

மொழிபெயர்ப்பிற்காக தயவுசெய்து உங்களைப் பற்றிய விபரங்களைக் கீழே அளியுங்கள்:

Tercüme edilmesi için, lütfen aşağıda detaylarınızı belirtin:

Đề dịch thuật, xin hãy cung cấp các chi tiết của bạn phía dưới:

Name:

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Địa chỉ:

- Shqip/Albanian
- Français/French
- 普通话/Mandarin
- Soomaali/Somali
- தமிழ்/Tamil
- Türkçe/Turkish
- Tiếng Việt/Vietnamese
- Other language (please state)

Return to:

Kthejeni tek:

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Şu adrese geri gönderiniz:

Gởi trả về:

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Braille, large print, audio tape
or computer disc contact:
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