



THIRD LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN: TRANSPORT PLAN
A submission to Merton Council
March 2019

1. Mitcham Cricket Green Community & Heritage takes an active interest in the future of the Cricket Green Conservation Area and its environs. We are the civic society for this part of Merton and part of the wider civic movement through membership of the national charity Civic Voice. We have been closely involved in the development of the Merton Local Plan, Borough Character Studies, the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan and numerous development proposals in the area. We have worked with the London Borough of Merton and our local councillors to produce the Cricket Green Charter which establishes our approach to development and change in the area and has been acknowledged in the Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan for Cricket Green (<http://mitchamcricketgreen.files.wordpress.com/2013/04/cricket-green-charter.pdf>). We have also contributed to production of the Merton Heritage Strategy as a member of the Merton Heritage Forum. We are members of The Canons Steering Group delivering a £5m Lottery funded project and also undertake practical projects, organise walks and run Mitcham Heritage Day and Community on the Green.
2. We welcome this opportunity to inform the Third Local Implementation Plan setting out Merton's transport objectives and investment priorities.
3. Mitcham Cricket Green is an area that would benefit significantly for investment to meet the Plan's objectives "*to get more people active, reduce air pollution and to promote healthier lifestyles.*" We have undertaken our own air quality monitoring in the Cricket Green area which shows there is a significant problem and international standards are being exceeded. This is reported [here](#).
4. We identify a series of additional measures which would help achieve the Plan's objectives and also ask that these objectives be set in the context of respecting the Borough's rich heritage and wildlife. The planned 2.5m "*shared use path*" across the registered Town Green at Three Kings Piece does not achieve this and should be removed.

Three Kings Piece

5. We strongly object to the planned tarmacking of an important stretch of Three Kings Piece along Commonsides West for a 2.5m shared use path (Figure 10). We consider this would be harmful to the Town Green and be inconsistent with its use.
6. Furthermore, during a dispute over the legality of Merton Council's actions tarmacking parts of both Cranmer Green and Three Kings Piece for bus stops and pavements in 2016 we were informed by the Head of futureMerton that there were no other plans for Merton Council to tarmac any more of the registered Town Greens.
7. Any investment in this facility should make use of and reconfigure the existing roadway and pavement along Commonsides West without intruding on the area of registered Town Green.

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Additional measures

8. We look to the final Local Improvement Plan to include the following measures:
- A ban on heavy lorries running on Church Road between Lower Green West and Benedict Wharf enabled by the imminent closure of Benedict Wharf as a waste management facility
 - Changed traffic flow at Lower Green West to remove the existing “roundabout” configuration and reconnect it to Lower Green East
 - Enhance the character of Cricket Green road running alongside the east of the cricket ground such that the road takes the character of a space shared by pedestrians and road users, reduce traffic flows and encourage pedestrian links across its entire length, and particularly at Cold Blows and the entrance to The Canons
 - Improved pedestrian permeability in Mitcham Town Centre and Cricket Green, including:
 - enhanced pedestrian crossings and reduced crossing times in Mitcham Town Centre and across Cricket Green road at Mitcham Police Station
 - new pedestrian links between Church Road/London Road and London Road Playing Fields
 - an improved pedestrian environment in Tramway Path, Church Path, Baron Walk and Cold Blows
 - Removing vehicle access to King George VI Avenue across Cranmer Green as proposed in the Mitcham Cricket Green Conservation Area Appraisal and Management Plan
 - A requirement in all travel plans for schools and new development to demonstrate how they will contribute to improvements in air quality, and a commitment from Merton Council to monitor and enforce these travel plans
 - Investment in a behavioural change programme to raise awareness of individual actions to improve air quality
 - Enforcement against idling cars and lorries which extends beyond any plans to act on idling outside schools
 - Community consultation over the location of a network of better designed (including reduced levels of light pollution) electric vehicle charging points in Mitcham as an alternative to the current process whereby Merton Council submits planning applications to itself ahead of any community engagement
 - Stronger pedestrian connections between Mitcham and the Wandle Trail and open spaces, including Willow Lane Industrial Estate
 - Active promotion of Mitcham Common as a source of health and well-being with relatively better air quality including:
 - Promotion of healthy walks
 - Opening up the Ecology Centre as an affordable location for hosting community-led activity promoting health and well-being
 - Management and planting along the fringes to filter particulates.