

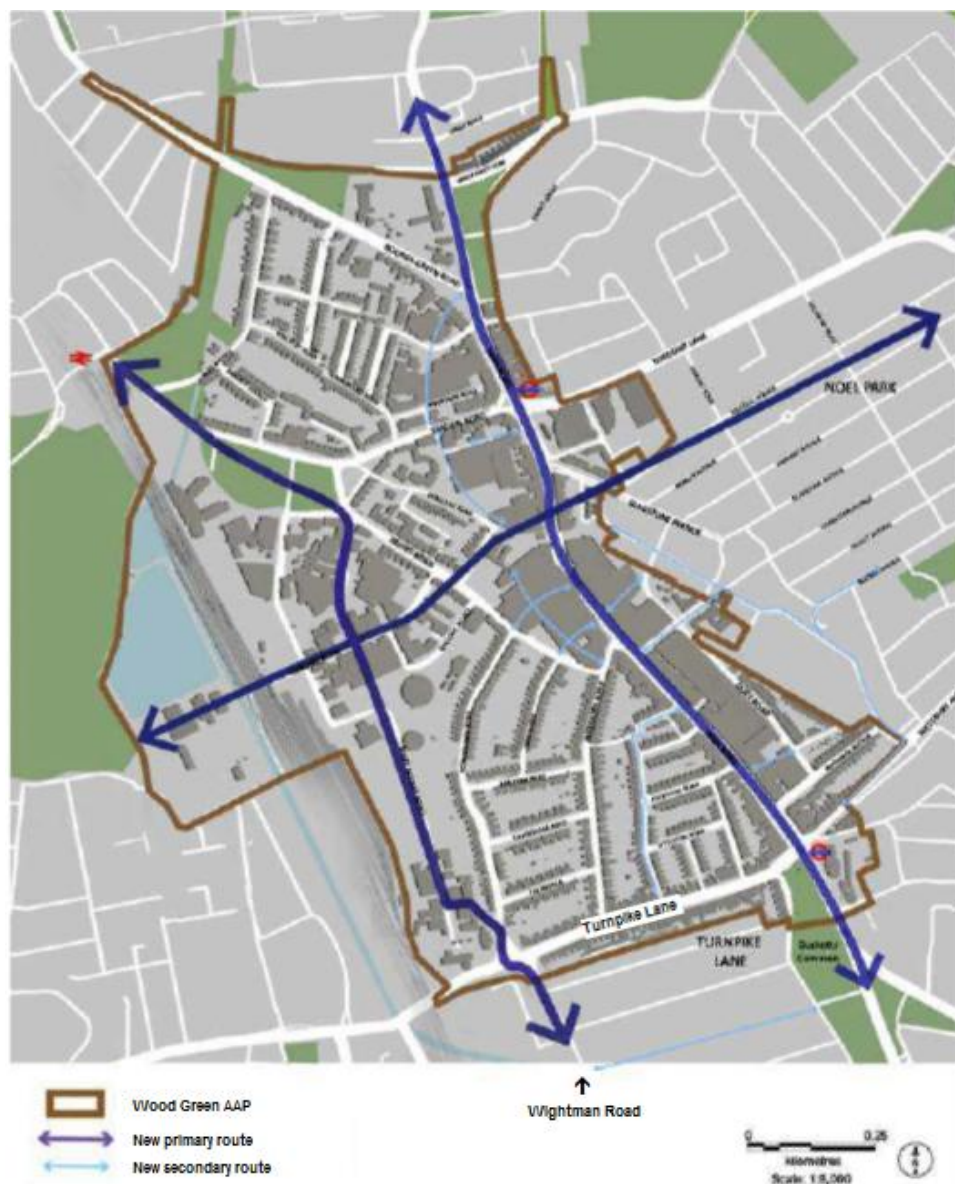
## Important message for Wightman Road and ladder residents

Haringey Council has put out an action plan for the Wood Green area asking for **comments from the public by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017**. It is an ambitious plan to expand Wood Green to create a “metropolitan town centre” similar in scale to Stratford or Croydon but serving most of North London.

The document can be seen at: <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning/planning-policy/local-plan/wood-green-area-action-plan>

The plan includes a map that shows a “**new primary route**” heading straight for Wightman Road. In other words, they want to expand the Wood Green town centre and deal with the increasing road traffic by continuing to dump it on Wightman Road. The new route, incidentally, creates a new road north of Turnpike Lane so that the traffic would not pass along Hornsey Park Road as it does today. Our neighbours there will be very grateful but what about Wightman Road and the ladder?

Here is the map from page 74 of the plan. What do you think it means for us?



**Figure 7.6:** Map of new routes in the town centre

This leaflet and text can be found at: <http://www.livingwightman.org/>

We are Living Wightman, the campaign that got going when Wightman Road was closed for 6 months last year while the railway bridge was rebuilt. That campaign is still going on and the Council will soon be consulting further about ways of improving the situation on Wightman Road and on the other ladder roads. There will be future leaflets from the Council about that.

However, we have seen no leaflet about the Wood Green Plan and we, in Living Wightman, think that everyone likely to be affected should react now to let the Council know that residents (many of whom do not even have cars) do not want to see our streets loaded up with even more traffic than they already have. On the contrary, we want our pavements cleared of parked cars, we want unpolluted air and we want a vast reduction in the volume of traffic we now see every day.

If you agree, please react to the Wood Green Action Plan now so that the Council knows the strength of our feelings. There is no standard format for comments and they can be sent **by e-mail to [localplan@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:localplan@haringey.gov.uk)** or **by post to Planning Policy, Level 6, River Park House, 225 High Rd, Wood Green, N22 8HQ.**

The plan is very long and contains much that is good. However, there is no need to respond to the whole thing. We suggest a response along the following lines would be enough for now:

✂.....**Cut off and post.....**

To: Planning Policy, Haringey Council  
River Park House, 225 High Rd,  
Wood Green, N22 8HQ

From:  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

I/we have seen Haringey Council's Area Action Plan for Wood Green dated February 2017 and I/we wish to object in the strongest terms to the assumption, which is clearly implicit in this plan, that large volumes of road traffic will continue to be routed to Wightman Road and the Harringay ladder. Indeed, the plan envisages a huge expansion of the commercial activities centred upon Wood Green and this can be expected to draw still more road traffic into an area completely unsuited for it.

We feel that the expected population growth in the outer boroughs will itself lead to increased traffic trying to transit our borough and that the last thing our planners should be doing is to create a magnet for still more. Let an improved Wood Green remain an essentially local town centre and, if there has to be a new "Metropolitan Town Centre" for North London, let it be out beyond the North Circular Road so that traffic will be drawn away from us.

Most parts of the borough were, like Wood Green, built before the age of the motor vehicle, and most parts are blighted by excessive road traffic much of which is just passing through. Any plans the Council makes should start by recognising this disagreeable fact rather than treating it as an afterthought along with air pollution. We don't want to see plans that prioritise the attraction of new customers from wide swathes of North London and we don't want the freely flowing traffic from Wood Green roaring passed our windows. What we do want is a serious response to the new, invisible blight of NO<sub>2</sub> air pollution which is already above legal limits in Wightman Road and many other streets. The pollution in our streets does not just come from buses and HGV's, it comes from many thousands of light vehicles that already pass through here every day – many of them diesels.