

**Subject:** FW: Comments on Wood Green Area Action Plan

**From:** Cllr Wright Charles

**Sent:** 30 March 2017 13:50

**To:** LDF; Kay Beth

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These are personal comments, but also informed by my experience as a Woodside ward councillor and various concerns raised by residents.

I welcome the plan's aims; Wood Green is in need of investment to provide new homes and jobs, improve the infrastructure and secure the sustainability of the shopping centre.

Inevitably, this will be a long process, and it will be important to get delivery plans, the Investment Framework, Streets and Spaces strategy and other delivery strategies in place as quickly as possible.

It is also important to maintain a strong communication and consultation framework addressing all residents and businesses in the area, as well as groups with specific interests e.g. Sky City tenants, so that they are aware of timescales, milestones and opportunities for engagement and participation. Coupled with this, I am concerned about possible blight in respect of specific properties identified, and would be interested to see what specific strategies can be put in place to address this.

Again generally, I am concerned that the plan is unambitious in respect of vehicle movements/journeys – p50, para 4.37: "It is unlikely that the number of journeys passing through the area will change in the near future, but methods of making the routes as civilised as possible...will be considered." This is not in alignment with the vision in the emerging borough transport strategy, due for consultation in May as I understand: 'A transport system that matches our growth and prosperity ambitions, whilst also improving our environment, providing accessible choices and making walking, cycling and the use of public transport a first choice for all.'

I am not convinced that increasing junction capacity (p100 para 7.78) is necessary or that it would result in less delay rather than more traffic. The aspiration to increase cycling is not addressed by increasing junction capacity. Consideration should also be given to improving safety and provision for cycling on Wood Green High Road throughout the area.

Specifically, policy WG11 and site allocations WG SA2, SA3 and SA4 should be strengthened to require the elimination of current rat running routes via Ringslade Road and Watsons Road and to require that no rat running routes are enabled via any proposed new north-south links.

Cllr Charles Wright  
Labour member for Woodside  
Chair, Overview and Scrutiny Committee