## The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

# Results of the public consultation on a zebra crossing on Bomore Road Report by the Policy and Projects Apprentice

#### 24 July 2025

## 1. Background

- 1.1 This paper summarises the responses received to the recent consultation on proposals to introduce a raised zebra crossing on Bomore Road, near Avondale Park Road, by Kensington Leisure Centre. The proposals, including a plan of the zebra crossing, can be found on the Consultation and Engagement Hub.
- 1.2 The scheme was proposed following a request from Councillor Elnaghi who raised concerns regarding traffic speeds and difficulties crossing the road, particularly for people with disabilities.
- 1.3 If introduced, the cost of implementing the zebra crossing would be approximately £76k subject to detailed design. The crossing would be funded via allocations from the GLA's Future Neighbourhood fund (£45k) and the Council's Green Fund (£31k).

#### 2. Consultation

- 2.1 Between 2 June and 13 July 2025, the Council undertook a non-statutory public consultation on the introduction of a raised zebra crossing on Bomore Road. Residents living near each proposal (c. 1,145 households/businesses) received letters signposting them to the consultation on the Council's consultation and engagement hub. Local ward councillors, residents' associations and community groups were made aware of the consultations by email.
- 2.2 Key stakeholders, such as the emergency services, utility companies, refuse collection teams and neighbouring boroughs were also informed of the consultation by email.
- 2.3 There were 18 responses to the consultation, with 17 responses coming via the online portal and one response via email. The responses can be found in full in Appendix 1.
- 2.4 13 of the responses (72 per cent) supported the proposal in full, four (22 per cent) supported in part and one (five per cent) objected to the scheme. All the responses are provided in Appendix 1.
- 2.5 17 of the 18 responses came from residents of Kensington and Chelsea. The other response came from a volunteer group based within the borough.

#### Objection, support and support-in-part responses

2.6 The objector to the scheme believed that road humps, rather than a zebra crossing, are preferable on Bomore road and Dulford Street to reduce speeding around blind corners.

- 2.7 One respondent suggested introducing a 15mph speed limit along with the installation of speed cameras.
- 2.8 Two respondents felt that traffic calming is needed on Walmer Road. Better Streets for Kensington and Chelsea and an individual respondent suggested the crossing should make provision for cyclists, such as by way of a parallel crossing.
- 2.9 One respondent commented that there is a lack of pay and display parking in the area and felt that the zebra crossing would take away a lot of the already scarce parking in the area.

#### Officer response

- 2.10 The newly proposed crossing will be on a raised table, which aims to reduce speeds on the approaches to the crossing. It is the case that the Council has no specific funding for road humps other than through the Neighbourhood Community Infrastructure Levy (NCIL).
- 2.11 Whilst this scheme is not placed on Dulford Street, there are already approved plans to build a safety scheme outside Grenfell Nursery, located on the corner of Clarendon Road and Dulford Street. The details of this scheme of this scheme can be found <u>here</u>.
- 2.12 The authority to enforce speeding regulations lies with the Police, not local councils, so we are unable to install speed cameras. The Council also has no power to introduce a speed limit lower than the existing 20mph limit.
- 2.13 Installing a parallel crossing would suggest that cycling is permitted across the footway in front of Kensington Leisure Centre, which is not the intended use of this space.
- 2.14 The installation of the zebra crossing on Bomore Road will result in the net loss of one pay-by-phone parking space. While the Council recognises the importance of parking availability, officers believe that the improved pedestrian safety and improved access to local amenities offered by the crossing justifies the loss of this single space. However, such a change requires a statutory consultation so residents will have a second opportunity to share their views on parking changes. We expect this further consultation to take place in October.

### **Further Comments in support**

2.15 Respondents in support of the scheme felt that the proposals would make it safer and easier for people (including school students) to cross Bomore Road (six respondents).

#### **Comment from the Metropolitan Police**

2.16 The Police raised a query regarding the usage of grey tactile paving, commenting that the tactile paving should be in a contrasting colour for the benefit of visually impaired crossing users.

#### Officer response

2.17 The Police correctly point out that the DfT's national best practice guidance on the use of tactile paving directs that at zebra crossings the blister surface should be red in colour (the colour that has been established for this application since 1981) to indicate to partially sighted people that the crossing is controlled. The DfT Guidance only relaxes this colour requirement in conservation areas or in the vicinity of a listed building. The Council's streetscape policy, however, stipulates that tactile paving used throughout the borough will be grey.

# 3. Next steps

3.1. Following consideration of all comments received, officers recommend to the Director of Transport and Regulatory Services that the Council proceed to detailed design and implementation of the proposed zebra crossing on Bomore Road, subject to statutory consultation.

#### Appendix 1: Verbatim responses received through consultation

# Objection - One

What's needed there and on Dulford Street are humps to slow down the speeding traffic on blind corners, not a crossing

# **Support in Full – comments**

Yes! Been wanting this for a long time. There are so many children & others crossing to/from the leisure centre & the visibility and space for the cars is v limited. I've seen at least one child being hit here and it's about time something is done to make it after. Often cars drive too fast past, cars park/wait outside of the parking bays making it v narrow and dangerous.

More zebras make our community safer.

Frequent crossing point (including for kids going to school or leisure centre) where cars often speed through.

Seems like a very sensible proposal as I often see people trying to cross the road at this location and struggling to do so safely.

I strongly support this proposal. Although Bomore Road is not exceptionally busy, it has a kind of chicane on it which some drivers treat like a racing track, even though there is only last-minute visibility of pedestrians. In addition there are often vehicles (including vans etc) parked along this section which gives pedestrians poor visibility for crossing the road, which is dangerous especially considering many parents and children have to cross here on their way to the Leisure Centre. I have always thought there should be traffic calming measures along this section and am glad the issue has finally been raised.

I am very much in support of this scheme. There is a lot of speeding and anti-social driving and parking outside the leisure centre (cars double parking and parking on double yellow line), making it difficult and dangerous for pedestrians to cross. Lots of children (leisure centre users) are exposed to dangerous driving there.

This is a very difficult Road to cross because of the bends in the road and cars and frequently coaches parked outside of the Leisure Centre that make it difficult to see on-coming traffic. I cross the Bomore Road nearly every day and as a slow moving elderly person I frequently encounter cars and bike come speeding round the bends. Please do put a crossing there is will be of great assitance and make crossing Bomore Road much safer and who knows it may reduce speeding on Bomore Road.

Just a note to the traffic planners. During the consultation on the building of Lancaster West Estate back in the 1970s it was pointed out by local people at the consultation meeting that the proposed bends in the Bomore Road would make it difficult to see on-coming traffic.

We were ignored because the planners said it was a traffic calming measure given the number of cars and electric bikes that speed at more than 20 mph round those bends it clearly does not work.

This will make things much safer for my children. I'd like to ask for traffic calming measures on Walmer Road as well, because drivers often go incredibly fast - I even reported someone to the police once because they were doing about 40mph and aggressively accelerated towards my pram as I was crossing Walmer Road onto Bomore Road.

## **Support in Part comments**

I support the addition of a raised zebra in this area, but in a slightly different spot. The place where cars need to slow down is not Bomore Road, but rather Walmer Road, specifically where it meets dulford street near to the nursery. There is nowhere safe to cross along this section, this is made worse by the fact that every single day there are near misses with collisions of cars due to the speed at which drivers race down the road, and the fact that there is not enough space on the corner for two lanes of traffic. This is not only unsafe, but also causes a lot of noise pollution, as drivers honk their horns loudly all throughout the day angrily at each other for being unsafe. I've seen multiple crashes there as a result too from my window. There was one just a few weeks ago. I would put the zebra just before the corner of Walmer Road, opposite Bomore Road apartments, and take it a step further by lowering the speed limit to 15, introduce a one way traffic system around the corner, with speed cameras with hefty fines. You'd be sure to make a lot of money, as the majority of cars do now slow down to the speed limit. Its easy to cross Bomore Road because it's no where near as busy or unsafe as Walmer Road.

There is already a lack of pay and display parking in the area, the zebra crossing will away a lot of the already scarce parking in the area.

Fully support crossing on this popular desire line

Would be good to see design incorporate cycling needs in the area. A parallel crossing along with lowered let's and pavement design could facilitate safe crossing for cyclists

The sports centre is a popular destination and this location is a popular cross for cyclists I, enabling safe and convenient crossing would improve active travel further

Overall we strongly support the introduction of new zebra crossings at these locations as they support and enable the prioritisation of pedestrians at busy junctions. Where these are accompanied by raised tables is supported as a speed reduction measure to reduce speeds of vehicles approaching marked and unmarked crossings at these busy locations.

Install parallel crossing to facilitate safer crossing for pedestrians and cyclists on what is a popular route joining the sports centre and the existing filtered road.