# St Helen's Gardens Proposed Improvements

Analysis of stakeholder consultation

June 2021

Putting Communities First Team The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea consult@rbkc.gov.uk



### Introduction

#### Background

The St Quintin and Woodlands Neighbourhood Forum Neighbourhood Plan identified the opportunity for St Helen's Gardens to act as a focal point for the area and the local community. In 2018 there was a serious collision at the junction of St Helen's Gardens and St Quintin Avenue involving a pedestrian. We have also received numerous complaints about traffic speeds on St Quintin Avenue and in the vicinity of St Helen's Gardens over the years.

We have therefore taken this opportunity to put together proposals to enhance the street and to address the road safety concerns on St Helen's Gardens itself and on St Quintin Avenue in the vicinity of the junction to help pedestrians and to reduce traffic speeds.

#### **Consultation methodology**

On 28 April 2021, the Council consulted the local community by sending out consultation packs by post to gather views on the proposed improvements. If the local community is in favour of the proposal, we will continue to develop the design and programme the works to start in Autumn 2021. The scheme is likely to take approximately 12 weeks to complete but we will work with residents and businesses to minimise disturbance. If the proposals are rejected, the funds that the council has identified for this project would be used for other highway or environmental schemes elsewhere in the borough.

### Report

A total of 99 surveys were returned by the closing date of 15 June 2021. This report contains an analysis of survey responses. Where graphs are shown, percentage of responses are used and can be rounded. A separate appendices document is also available on request, containing data tables (appendix one) and all 53 comments made by respondents to the survey (appendix two).

### Acknowledgements

The Council would like to thank all respondents that took the time to feedback their views.



### **Results at a glance**

- There were **99 responses** to the survey and all of the responses received that contained a postcode, indicated that they were **from the local area**.
- Most responses indicate that they are responding as a **local resident**, with a few indicating they are a **local business**.
- The majority of responses indicate that they are in favour of the proposed changes to St Helen's Gardens.
- When asked for comment, respondents often **commented on traffic speed**, **parking** and **congestion** as concerns in the area. There were other comments regarding approval of the **new zebra crossing** in the area.



# Survey findings: Capacity in which responding

Respondents were asked in what capacity they were responding.

- The majority (94 per cent) indicated that they were responding as 'a local Resident'.
- A small percentage (five per cent) of respondents indicated they were responding as 'a local Business'.



Base: All responses (99)



# Survey findings: Support for proposed scheme

Respondents were asked to what extent they support the proposed scheme.

- The vast majority (79 per cent) indicated that they **would like** to see the proposed scheme introduced.
- A smaller number of respondents (16 per cent) were **against** the proposed scheme with two per cent of respondents responding with '*no opinion*'.



Base: All responses (99)



# **Survey findings: Support for proposed scheme**

**St Quintin Avenue** had the most number of responses (19) in support of the proposals and had three responses opposing the proposals.

**St Helen's Gardens** had the most number of responses (eight) opposing the proposals, although it also had the second highest number of responses supporting the proposals (14).

Street	Supporting	Against
St Quintin Avenue	19	3
St Helen's Gardens	14	8
Finstock Road	10	1
Wallingford Avenue	7	0
St Mark's Road	6	1
Bassett Road	5	0
Kelfield Gardens	5	0
Cambridge Gardens	4	1
Oxford Gardens	4	0
Scampston Mews	4	0



## **Survey findings: Location of responses**



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# Survey findings: Comments about the proposals

Respondents were offered to comment about the proposals. Comments made have been themed and the themes with three or more comments are summarised in the table below. Examples of comments made can be seen overleaf, with the full list of themes and comments made can be found in the appendix two. We received 53 comments in total and comments can appear in multiple themes. The most commented on themes were in relation to '*traffic speed*' (17 comments) and '*approval*' of the scheme (15 comments).

Theme*	Comments
Traffic speed	17
Approval	15
Parking	7
Zebra crossing	6
Congestion	4
Disapproval	4
Maintenance	4
Other	4
Improve safety	3
Pedestrian space	3



\*Themes shown with three or more mentions

### Survey findings: Comments about the proposals

"Hopefully the junction with Oxford Gardens will also benefit from the proposed improvements. There have been several accidents over the years at the cross roads and crossing at the zebra crossing can be difficult due to the speed of the traffic."

Traffic speed

"I was not aware a consultation was being done on this and didn't have the chance to read through the paper documentation of the proposed changes."

Zebra crossing

"St Helen's Gardens is a lovely little space with several shops etc - the more of a community spirit we can bring to this area will be a great plus - especially as more people are walking or using pedal power to make it more lively and user friendly outdoor seating a great idea - 100% for your scheme."



"I cannot see how the residents' parking bays can be moved to St Quintin Ave when it is already full of parking bays with no extra space. These proposed plans will force more traffic onto St Quintin Ave which is already extremely busy. The construction work involved will be awful for local residents. We have already had to put up with so much construction work in the area. The prospect of this is extremely worrying."

#### Parking

"Although I agree with the proposals you have put forward there are still a couple of problems related to St Quintin Avenue. The volume of traffic and the speed of traffic coming from North Pole Road down St Quintin Avenue needs to be addressed. Also when the St Helen's proposal is finished I hope that the problem of parents from Bassett House School blocking the roads around St Helen's when dropping children to school needs to be monitored."

Congestion



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Approval