



## **Liveable Crouch End Co-Design Workshops - Summary**

Workshop Dates:

- 23 March (18 attended),
- 26 March (23 attended),
- 1 April 2019 (30 attended)

Venue: Civic Centre

Facilitators: Faith Coles, Lidia Pavon, Chris Harrison, Sam Neal, Neil Goldberg, Erica Owusu-Boateng, Tracey McGovern

Chair: Jereme McKaskill

### **Workshop overview:**

The Liveable Crouch End co-design workshops were organised to provide an opportunity for people to:

- come up with / review ideas to deliver the Liveable Crouch End scheme
- hear what people said they want improved in the area, from the pre-engagement survey, and
- see the traffic and parking survey data that had been captured.

### **Pre-engagement survey responses:**

Top two items that people said they wanted improved were:

- footways – 35%
- air quality – 22%

The top responses to what would help people walk, cycle and use public transport more were:

- Improved cycling infrastructure – 34%
- Less impact of traffic (e.g. volumes, speed, noise) – 33%
- Better pedestrian spaces and crossings – 29%

The workshops included two exercises, the first exercise concentrated on the residential areas of Crouch End, and the second exercise looked at the town centre area as well as proposals for cycle routes.

### **Exercise 1:**

A map of the scheme area was created showing ideas to help attendees to discuss key issues and propose alternative measures. The ideas were based on the feedback received from the pre-engagement survey carried out during December and January and traffic and pedestrian surveys.

The ideas aimed to prevent rat running on residential roads and decrease traffic levels in residential areas through interventions such as road closures and one-way streets. These interventions would reduce the impact of traffic in the residential areas, improve air quality and make those streets safer



and more appealing to walk or cycle. Attendees were asked to look at those ideas and suggest changes or anything that needed further consideration.

Workshop attendees were sat around tables and presented with the map so they could provide their opinions / suggestions on the current proposals by writing notes, highlighting suggestions or drawing on the map as they wished.

Each table was given a large A0 map to ensure everyone had a clear visual of the proposals and a facilitator was allocated to each table to talk people through the background data provided, and explain the rationale behind the initial ideas.

### **Exercise 2:**

The second exercise focused on two themes:

- cycle route options through Crouch End, and
- creative public realm ideas primarily for the Town Centre area

People were asked to look at what they would like to see implemented in public spaces that were being created, encouraging them to think about paving and seating options, pocket parks, creative lighting etc.

### **Key Feedback:**

Overall, there was very good support for the ideas of reducing rat running and creating more space for pedestrians and cyclists. There were some recurring themes and points of discussion that came up throughout the three workshops which will be a point of focus during the next stage of design. These included the following:

- Residents welcomed changes in Crouch End Town Centre.
- There was support from attendees for the reduction of rat running in residential areas, but some concern that more vehicles would end up in the town centre or on the main A-roads adjacent to schools.
- The implementation of Schools Streets around schools in the area was supported.
- There was discussion about the proposals for Ferme Park Road with conflicting views. Some attendees felt that more interventions were needed, rather than just having one closure on that road, and other attendees wanting the road left open to help alleviate the traffic flow on the main A-roads/town centre.
- There was discussion about the area to the west of the town centre (e.g. Shepherd's Hill) and whether preventing rat running through that area is best achieved with interventions closer to or further from the town centre.
- Interventions at the southern end of Middle Lane were supported as it would provide multiple benefits: more space for pedestrians, safer walking environment and less rat-running.
- Attendees were concerned about the Crouch End Hill / Crouch Hill junction. People felt that it needed to be redesigned, with more space given over to pedestrians and for it to be easier to cross the roads.



- There was positive support for removing parking from both Tottenham Lane and Park Road which currently have narrow footways and not enough space for buses. Ideas included removing parking from both sides, while retaining space for loading and other pedestrian facilities on one side as well as segregated cycle lanes along the length of Tottenham Lane.
- The attendees were supportive of the Clock Tower pedestrianisation. Some suggested that pedestrianising the other side of the Clock Tower (Western Park Road) should be looked into as it may be better due to space and sunlight. The associated road closure next to Waitrose was also questioned with some people worrying about delivery vehicles driving around the residential areas if they couldn't get straight out onto the A-road. Ensuring that there would be adequate drop off / pick up spaces for disabled residents and visitors was raised.
- Potentially increasing traffic along Crouch End Hill past Coleridge Primary School was a major concern for some attendees, with questions raised about the implications for air quality and the children's safety.
- People generally desired more interventions around the schools to improve air quality and safety for children walking and cycling.
- The need for more adequate and decorative / artistic lighting in the area was a popular opinion amongst attendees for safety and aesthetic purposes. One suggestion was to light the clock tower, and to include benches with low level lighting built into them.
- Attendees also insisted that any new public realm ideas should still be in keeping with the look and feel of Crouch End Town Centre (a conservation area) and be of good quality materials.
- Public realm suggestions included increasing plants/trees to create a "green corridor" linking public spaces in Crouch End including Hornsey Library, the Town Hall development square and the Clock Tower.

#### Next Steps:

- All ideas and suggestions will be looked at in more detail. They will then be used to create concept designs.
- The concept designs will then be submitted for a full public consultation later in 2019.