

COUNCIL MEETING – WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY 2016

MOTION - STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE – SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Following the various public meetings held and initial consultations undertaken by ward councillors representing the Merton town centres most affected, this Council recognises and shares the very considerable concern and anxiety felt by many residents and existing businesses about the impact of the Crossrail 2 proposals which were recently subject to consultation, and the following aspects in particular:

- Reduced quality of life for local residents as a result of disruption, noise and increased traffic congestion throughout the lengthy redevelopment;
- Unacceptable levels of upheaval and disruption to the local business community for up to 10 years;
- Loss of certain landmark buildings which currently enhance the borough's heritage and character;
- Loss of residential properties and gardens along with considerable amounts of commercial floor space;
- Lack of detail about how compensation for blight will be considered;
- Risk to the local economy of creating a dormitory suburb dominated by one-way commuting to central London; and
- Lack of detailed work, including traffic modelling, on options for West Barnes and Motspur Park level crossings.

This Council also regrets the lack of information provided by Crossrail 2 to residents in Merton both about its current proposals and in publicising details of the recent formal consultation.

In addition to the formal cross-party response submitted to the most recent round of consultation, this Council therefore:

- 1) Calls on Crossrail 2 to:
 - a) Reject the decimation of Wimbledon and other affected town centres;
 - b) Consider in detail other viable solutions that would minimise the impact and disruption for the borough's residents and businesses; and
 - c) Hold further discussions with residents, business groups, councillors and other elected representatives in the areas affected at the earliest possible opportunity.
- 2) Requests that Merton's Cabinet brings forward the timetable for its master planning process to establish a long term vision for Wimbledon so that work can commence as quickly as possible on developing a clear framework – in conjunction with residents and business groups - to guide the future development and regeneration of this major town centre.

Furthermore, this Council resolves to forward a copy of this motion to Michèle Dix, Managing Director of Crossrail 2.

Cllr Suzanne Grocott

Cllr Daniel Holden

Cllr Abdul Latif

Cllr Jill West
Page 1

