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Our ref: LG
Date: 01.08.11

Dear Leon,

I recently went on a visit to the Borough of Sutton to meet up with the local Councillors and discuss transport issues. I spoke at a local area committee and received feedback on numerous surface transport issues. I would be grateful if you could look into and respond to the following points.

Countdown – Wallington High Street

Local people are unhappy that there is a lack of countdown facilities on Wallington High Street. There is a greater need for them in this area, as there are many elderly residents who are less likely to have access to smart phone technology. When will these facilities be installed?

154 bus route

It was raised with me that the 154 bus route is often congested. What work are you doing alongside the Borough and local residents to rectify this problem?

Pedestrian Crossings

There is local concern that many of the pedestrian crossings across the Borough are being converted to 'puffin' style crossings from 'pelican.' Can you confirm this and give more information as to why this is? Local people report that they find them harder to use. Is there a new TfL policy to implement this change across London?

Tram extension

Local residents were enquiring if TfL was planning to build a tram extension from Croydon to Sutton in the future. Can you update me on whether TfL is doing any work on this scheme, and if you think this scheme could happen in the future?

Bus Stops

Can you update me on how TfL is working with the Borough in terms of accessibility at bus stops? Are there any plans in the future to improve accessibility at the bus stops in the Carshalton and Clockhouse area?

What is TfL's policy regarding putting seats at bus stops? To reiterate a point from earlier, parts of the Borough have a large elderly population and the local residents would like more seats/benches at their local bus stops, not just in those with a shelter. Is this possible at all? Could you also look into the specific stops on Shorts Road and Alma Road?

I believe the well-used Clockhouse bus terminal is very exposed during the winter time and could benefit from having a shelter. Could you look into this and see if it is possible to install one?

Snow

I am informed that during snowy conditions, many of the bus routes have to be diverted in the Borough, causing confusion to passengers as there is no information at bus stops. What works are TfL doing to mitigate this in future adverse weather conditions?

Hoppa Bus to new library

The local library in Carshalton is moving to the Westcroft Centre, just off the High Street. The local Councillors have had many residents ask them if a bus route could be diverted to go along the High Street and into the centre to accommodate this. Please can you look into this suggestion?

Parking on Red Routes

Could you look into the lack of parking restrictions on Pound Street and Carshalton Road (A232 Red Route) on Sundays? I believe there are car boot sales around five times a year at St Philomena's School causing parking chaos in the local area, especially in Pound Street which is very narrow. Does TfL patrol and enforce such red routes?

Heritage Railings around Carshalton Ponds

Will you look into why has there been no planning application from TfL to Sutton Council to replace and renew the heritage railings around Carshalton Ponds? The adjoining Honeywood Heritage Centre has received £790,000 of funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to improve the building and upgrade it into the Borough's major museum. Yet the railings on the red route are still in a terrible condition and every few weeks a motorist goes through them and ends up in the ponds. This issue is serious and desperately needs resolving before a bad, even fatal, accident occurs.

Welcome Signs on Carshalton High Street

Finally, could you look into why TfL has refused every suggestion for Welcome signs to Carshalton that the council has suggested for Carshalton High Street? I believe they have Local Committee funds for this project which are outstanding from three years ago, and the project is the brainchild of local residents.

Will you or the relevant team at TfL meet with local Councillors in Sutton to discuss this issue of Welcome signs?

I look forward to your detailed response.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Caroline Pidgeon AM

Chair, Transport Committee

Leader, London Assembly Liberal Democrat Group