

To: Planning Policy, Haringey Council
River Park House, 225 High Rd,
Wood Green, N22 8HQ

From: Simon Garner, Anne Geafun
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Address: [REDACTED]

Date: 4/4/2017

I/we have seen Haringey Council's Area Action Plan for Wood Green dated February 2017 and I/we wish to object in the strongest terms to the assumption, which is clearly implicit in this plan, that large volumes of road traffic will continue to be routed to Wightman Road and the Harringay ladder. Indeed, the plan envisages a huge expansion of the commercial activities centred upon Wood Green and this can be expected to draw still more road traffic into an area completely unsuited for it.

We feel that the expected population growth in the outer boroughs will itself lead to increased traffic trying to transit our borough and that the last thing our planners should be doing is to create a magnet for still more. Let an improved Wood Green remain an essentially local town centre and, if there has to be a new "Metropolitan Town Centre" for North London, let it be out beyond the North Circular Road so that traffic will be drawn away from us.

Most parts of the borough were, like Wood Green, built before the age of the motor vehicle, and most parts are blighted by excessive road traffic much of which is just passing through. Any plans the Council makes should start by recognising this disagreeable fact rather than treating it as an afterthought along with air pollution. We don't want to see plans that prioritise the attraction of new customers from wide swathes of North London and we don't want the freely flowing traffic from Wood Green roaring passed our windows. What we do want is a serious response to the new, invisible blight of NO₂ air pollution which is already above legal limits in Wightman Road and many other streets. The pollution in our streets does not just come from buses and HGV's, it comes from many thousands of light vehicles that already pass through here every day – many of them diesels.