

**St John's Wood Area Forum**  
Chairman: Cllr Lindsey Hall  
(020) 7641 4299  
[areaforums@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:areaforums@westminster.gov.uk)  
22 December 2011

Dear St John's Wood Area Forum Member

Thank you to all who were able to attend the recent St John's Wood Area Forum and help us make decisions that affect your local area. Your views are important to us, so I'd like to take this opportunity to let you know what we are planning to do in response to your feedback.

At our last area forum meeting on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November, three workshops were held to give you the opportunity to comment on tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, traffic management plans for the Olympics and an update on works at the Marlborough Hill Campus site. If you would like more detail on the workshops and Neighbourhood Fund discussions, visit [www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoods](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoods) or contact the Area Forums team.

### **Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour in St John's Wood**

Many of those arrested during the August riots are still waiting to have their cases heard at court. Westminster City Council and the Metropolitan Police have prepared applications for post-conviction orders (for example banning orders and Antisocial Behaviour Orders) against those found guilty of crimes committed in Westminster during the disturbances.

In response to the riots, the council and police have developed the 'Your Choice' gang diversion strategy. The aim is to provide a range of projects and initiatives to identify young people involved in or at risk of being involved in gangs, diversion from gang related activities and enforcement against those who persist with negative behaviours. A total of £313,000 has been dedicated to the delivery of the 'Your Choice' strategy and a lobbying campaign aimed at the Greater London Authority and Central Government is currently underway to secure longer term sustainable funding so the programme can be run for at least three years, in order to make a significant impact.

### **Traffic Management plans for the Olympics**

There will be a dedicated Olympic Route Network (ORN) running through central London during the Olympic period, which will see some lanes dedicated for use by the Olympic family which includes athletes, their families and the media. All roads on this network are dual carriageway, so one lane will still be useable by cars, bikes, taxis and buses. Congestion is likely on these routes however, so it is recommended that you try to avoid these areas and walk or cycle where possible. A map showing the ORN can be viewed at [www.tfl.gov.uk/orn](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/orn). The only road which will be closed to vehicles completely during the Games is Horseguards Parade. In St John's Wood, the ORN will only be in place when events are on at Lords, from 25<sup>th</sup> July until 5<sup>th</sup> August 2012.

You raised concerns about how you would get around during the games and about parking restrictions. Officers advised that there will only be approximately 5,000 people at the Archery events at Lords compared to up to 15,000 who attend the Test matches, so we expect that there should not be too much disruption in the area. St John's Wood Road will not be closed off during the games, however there may be some restrictions in place and some residents' bays may be

suspended. If this is the case then alternative parking places will be made available for you. You will have access to your properties even if roads are closed. The London Olympic Organising Committee (LOCOG) will apply for traffic orders for the Games in January. More detailed

information will then be available. We will be inviting representatives from Transport for London (TfL) and LOCOG to our next Area Forum in March to give you more up to date information.

### **Marlborough Hill Campus Update**

Works to the George Eliot part of the site are ongoing, though the initial foundations and ground level works are now complete. Work on the ground floor walls is now starting. There have been some small delays on site but the work is still on target for completion at the end of October 2012. Concerns have been raised about noise and the speed of lorries travelling along Marlborough Place. The worst of this traffic has now passed as the demolition phase has been completed, however if you still experience noise or speeding lorries working at the site you should call the 24 hour hotline on 0800 0835575. We will be speaking to both TfL and Camden Council to ensure that there will be enough public transport ahead of the increase in pupil numbers in the area.

### **Neighbourhood Funds – how should yours be spent?**

Neighbourhood Funds are dedicated funds to support local projects and priorities. They enable councillors to address the local issues that matter most to residents. Some funds have already been allocated with both wards choosing to pool some of their budget in order to joint fund a number of projects at St John's Wood library (including a monthly book club and IT classes) and a range of educational and cultural trips for older residents. Abbey Road councillors have also funded a number of other projects, including chair exercise classes for older residents at Barbara Brosnan Court. Regents Park councillors have also made a contribution to additional works on the Barrow Hill estate as well as art classes for older residents at Wharncliff Gardens.

Funds are still available and further suggestions can be made to your ward councillors through the details at the bottom of the page. For a full list of how neighbourhood funds have been spent so far, visit [www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoodfunds](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/neighbourhoodfunds). To find out which electoral ward you are in please visit [www.westminster.gov.uk/wardfinder](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/wardfinder)

### **Launch of Community Governance Review Consultation**

Having received a petition to establish a Community (Parish) Council in Queen's Park, Westminster City Council has resolved to conduct a Community Governance Review of Westminster. The review will consider how the council can work with local communities, and in particular will make recommendations on whether or not to establish new parishes, the electoral arrangements of any new parish council, and whether or not to introduce any new community governance arrangements other than those relating to parishes and parish councils.

The consultation will run until 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2012 to enable you to submit your views. The consultation document can be downloaded at [www.westminster.gov.uk/communitygovernance](http://www.westminster.gov.uk/communitygovernance). Alternatively, please contact the Area Forums team and we will send you a hard copy.

### **Your next St John's Wood Area Forum**

I look forward to welcoming you to the next St John's Wood Area Forum on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2012, venue to be confirmed. For more information, please contact the Area Forums team using the contact details on the front page of this letter.



**Cllr Lindsey Hall**  
**Chairman of the St John's Wood Area Forum**

[abbeyroad@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:abbeyroad@westminster.gov.uk)

[regentspark@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:regentspark@westminster.gov.uk)