



FRIENDS OF QUEEN'S WOOD

COMMENT ON HARINGEY DRAFT WALKING AND CYCLING PLAN

The Friends of Queen's Wood are a voluntary association of local residents which assists Haringey Council in looking after Queen's Wood. This is an area of ancient woodland and is protected as a nature reserve. We undertake conservation tasks, provide educational and community events in the wood and monitor developments which may affect the ecology or amenity of the wood.

As such, we have no direct interest in the main proposals in the draft action plan, but support the overall aims of improving the environment and combatting pollution and climate change. There is, however, one detailed proposal which could affect Queen's Wood adversely. It is proposed to create two Low Traffic Neighbourhoods where through car traffic would be banned, separated by Wood Lane/Queenswood Road/ Wood Vale which would become the only through route for vehicles, including heavy lorries, between Crouch End and Highgate. This road goes through the heart of Queen's Wood and if the proposal were implemented, it would be likely to cause a substantial increase in traffic through the wood, with consequent noise and air pollution. It would create a safety risk for pedestrians, including many children, crossing from one side of the wood to the other, also affecting those using the key walkers' route of the Capital Ring. In addition, it is probable that the parking spaces along Queenswood Road, which enable users to visit it and benefit from exercise and the natural environment, would have to be removed to enable through traffic.

This would cause significant detriment to the amenity of the wood and be a most unwelcome blight on a natural open space which is highly valued for its peace and quiet in the middle of an urban area. We would ask that the scheme should be amended to give Wood Lane/Queens Wood Road/Wood Vale at least as much protection from increased traffic as surrounding roads.

10 January 2022