

Please find the below feedback from the London Ambulance Service regarding the Fox Lane Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) scheme and filters;

London Ambulance Service (LAS) is the busiest ambulance service in the country; our focus is on achieving the best outcomes for ill and injured patients and ensuring we reach them in response times set by the government.

On the implementation of LTN schemes it is important to highlight that we support measures to improve public health by reducing traffic and encouraging walking and cycling but we know that changes to road layouts, traffic management schemes, and road closures all have the potential to impede our response to the most critically-ill people. This is why we are asking that emergency vehicle access is properly considered in all LTN schemes, by looking at ways to implement traffic management changes that avoid introducing physical barriers, like the planters and lockable bollards, in preference for automatic number plate recognition cameras (ANPR) which enable unimpeded emergency access and egress.

On 5 July 2020, LAS Chief Operating Officer formally wrote to all London Boroughs and TfL, including Enfield, informing them of our concerns regarding hard closures and requesting that, where possible, hard closures should be avoided and camera enforced soft closures be implemented to all LTN's for unhindered emergency vehicle access and egress, due to the potential risk hard closures could have in delaying an ambulance response and therefore impacting patient safety.

With patient safety our utmost priority, we engage regularly with traffic teams at TfL and local authorities, like Enfield Borough Council, to discuss traffic issues and to ensure traffic schemes better reflect our operational needs. Where our response or conveyance is delayed, our crews have the ability to log this on our reporting system (Datix) and we encourage them to do so. To date (12/01/2022) the LAS has reported 22 incidents of delayed access or egress relating to the Fox Lane LTN. Each of these reports have been reviewed and fed back to Enfield Council. As a result of this feedback and through regular meetings with Enfield traffic officers, the Fox Lane LTN scheme is currently being reviewed with the plan to implement ANPR cameras at a number of locations should the scheme become permanent following further consultation.

Although the LAS welcomes the plan to implement cameras at a number of locations in order to improve the permeability of the Fox Lane LTN scheme, the Trust still has concerns regarding the number of hard physical closures that would still be present within the Fox Lane LTN scheme and the potential for them to cause delays to responding emergency crews. The LAS therefore, continues to request that hard closures be avoided where possible in favour of camera enforced or soft closures to ensure unimpeded emergency access and egress is maintained.