

# HIGHAMS PARK TOWN CENTRE AREA IMPROVEMENTS



**WALK  
CYCLE  
ENJOY**

**enjoy**

WALTHAM FOREST

[www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk](http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk)

# HIGHAMS PARK TOWN CENTRE AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Waltham Forest is changing and we want you to be part of it. Thanks to a funding pot of £27million from Transport for London, we're delivering the Mini-Holland Programme, to make a range of improvements to make our streets fit for everyone to use, whether you walk, cycle, use public transport or drive.

The Highams Park Town Centre scheme area has over 6,500 addresses and includes the area framed by North Circular Road, Beech Hall Road, Hatch Lane and Woodford New Road. We want to make it easier for you to walk and cycle local journeys should you choose to and improve the look and feel of the area, making it an even more enjoyable place, boosting business and giving residents a sense of pride in their community.

In 2014, nearly 900 people were injured on our roads and air pollution in Waltham Forest is on the increase. At peak times of the day, we have up to 6,000 extra cars on our roads due to the school run. We need to do something about this so that everyone can get from A to B easily and safely.

We want to make our streets work for everyone and our borough a better place to live, work and visit. By creating designated space for cycling, creating routes that better connect our town centres and redesigning some of our public areas we want to help families get about safely, cut down unnecessary traffic outside your home and work with businesses so that people want to spend time in our borough and get the most out of this once in a lifetime opportunity.

We have four town centre schemes, one of which is Highams Park. These schemes will better connect Chingford, Highams Park, Leyton and Leytonstone through key walking and cycling routes, making areas of the borough easier to get to for people who want to walk and cycle for local journeys. The town centre schemes will also improve the look and feel of these four key areas whilst linking in with the four Village schemes in Walthamstow, making them more enjoyable places to spend time and money, boosting business for our local economy and giving our residents a sense of pride in their borough.

## WHAT'S HAPPENED SO FAR?

In March and April 2016, we sent a survey to all households in the scheme area to understand your concerns and what you want to see in your local area. Over 600 people took part, providing over 700 individual comments, which we analysed and used to shape the next stage of the plans. The results of the survey can be found at:

[www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/highams-park-town-centre/perception-survey](http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/highams-park-town-centre/perception-survey)

This feedback helped create an early design which was presented to over 90 residents who attended our co-design workshops in May 2016. Attendees at the workshop were asked what they liked and disliked about the design and asked what else they would like to see.

We are also speaking to key stakeholders (including the emergency services, schools, and religious and community groups) to make sure we take their views on board and the proposals work well for them. We will continue to engage with these groups as the scheme progresses through to final design and completion.

We have used information about traffic movements and traffic survey data to design a scheme that benefits all road users. More information about this design is detailed in this leaflet and we are asking for your views on it.

## GIVING YOUR VIEWS ON THE PROPOSED DESIGN

We want everyone who lives, works and uses the local area to have their say on the scheme design and help shape the proposals. To help manage the consultation and feedback we receive, we are asking you to rate and comment on groups of proposals rather than individual measures, and to tell us what else you would like to see.

Please read each group of proposals listed carefully, and tell us your thoughts on each one in the accompanying questionnaire. Depending on how much you write, we expect the survey to take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

# THE PROPOSED PLANS

## 1 AREA UP KEEP

Results from the perception surveys in March and April 2016, and feedback from the workshops showed that the most important improvements people would like to see are better pavements and road resurfacing. As part of this scheme we plan to address these concerns and, subject to funding, will look to upgrade the pavements and resurface the following roads:

- Oak Hill (from Gascoigne Gardens to The Bridle Path)
- Waterhall Avenue
- Manor Way.

## 2 IMPROVE PUBLIC SPACES

Results from the perception survey in March and April 2016 showed that the second most popular improvement people would like to see in the area was more plants and trees.



IMAGE 1. EXAMPLE OF WHAT AN IMPROVED PUBLIC SPACE COULD LOOK LIKE OUTSIDE A SCHOOL

In Waltham Forest one in five vehicles during rush hour traffic is making a school trip. With the average school catchment area in the borough just half a mile we want to encourage more people to choose to walk or cycle to school to relieve congestion and improve air quality near our schools. We also want to improve the areas near our schools with plants, trees, cycle stands and seating (on wider pavements) to create a nicer place and experience for parents and children travelling to school.

We are proposing to assess the existing cycling and pedestrian facilities outside a selection of schools in the local area with a view to providing extra cycle parking, more trees and seating and generally improving the environment to encourage sustainable journeys. We will work with the schools to develop the plans as appropriate.

## 3 CREATING A SAFER ENVIRONMENT

Results from our perception survey in March and April 2016 showed that 38 per cent of people who took part would like to see safer crossing points. Residents also raised this and general traffic speeds and volumes on a number of roads as a key concern at the resident workshops in May 2016.

- For the combined crossing to be installed at Wadham Road into Beech Hall Road, some double yellow lines will be put in place at the bottom of Beech Hall Road to ensure that this area is clear of any parked vehicles. This will allow people who walk and cycle to cross this area more easily and provide a suitable space for vehicles to turn.
- For the combined crossing to be installed at the Hale End Road/ Beech Hall Road and the Hale End Road/ Handsworth Avenue junctions the following road changes will be introduced to prevent vehicles turning out of the road onto the new crossing, helping to improve safety when crossing the road:
  - Right hand turn ban on Beech Hall Road (turning into Hale End Road)
  - No exit from Handsworth Avenue into Hale End Road

Some additional parking bays along Hale End Road will also be created by installing the crossing.

- Improve the public space around the junction of Hale End Road, Beech Hall Road and Handsworth Road with more trees, plants, seating and cycle parking.
- Create 'raised junctions' at the following locations, which involves raising the road to pavement level to encourage vehicles to slow down, improving safety for all road users:
  - Falmouth Avenue
  - The junction of Nightingale Avenue and The Avenue.
- Install protective 'cycle islands' on Nightingale Avenue and Abbots Crescent at the junctions with The Avenue to provide a safe space for cycles to stop when turning. **Parking will be restricted between these roads during the peak hours of 7-10am and 3-6pm to ensure this area is clear of parked vehicles providing a safer layout for cycles and pedestrians to cross the road and improving traffic flow.**
- Add advisory cycle road markings (white dotted line cycle lanes) along the route to make vehicles aware that this is a cycle route.
- Provide signage for people cycling along the whole route to make it easier to navigate.

## NEW CYCLE ROUTE A406 TO CHINGFORD (WEST) – RED ROUTE ON THE PLAN

We are proposing a local cycle route that runs from the A406 (North Circular Road) into Chingford via Halden Road. To do this we are proposing the following:

- Make the following improvements along River Walk (between Winchester Road and Beech Hall Road) to make it safer and easier to cycle:
  - Widen River Walk to create a shared cycle and pedestrian path
  - Improve the road surface to make cycling along the route more comfortable and safer – we will undertake an assessment of the sections that need improving most
  - Improve the lighting along the route so that people feel safer cycling all year round – we will undertake an assessment of the sections that need improving
  - Remove unnecessary street furniture and clutter to make the route more attractive and pleasant to use.
- Install a new combined cycle and pedestrian zebra crossing on Winchester Road at the junction with River Walk. This will provide a safer connection to the cycle route on Beech Hall Road, whilst providing a safer crossing point on Winchester Road.
- Allow two way cycling (called contraflow cycling) on Halden Road and install an island for cycles at the junction with Winchester Road to provide a space for cycles to turn into the road safely.
- Allow two way cycling (contraflow cycling) on Selwyn Avenue with an island for cycles at the junction with The Broadway to provide space for cycles to turn into the road safely.
- Provide signage and cycle road markings on Halden Road, Cavendish Road and Selwyn Avenue to make vehicles aware that this is a cycle route while making it easier to navigate for people who cycle.

To respond to this, we are undertaking further traffic assessments at the locations below to better understand traffic speeds and behaviour, and to see if any additional proposals are necessary to improve safety. Part of this will include looking at upgrading the crossing points at these locations to help pedestrians and people who cycle cross safely and more easily. We will then carry out further local consultation as appropriate.

- Tamworth Avenue and Charter Road
- Oak Hill between Hollywood Way and Holly Crescent.

We will also look at upgrading the crossing points to help pedestrians and people who cycle cross safely and more easily.

## 4 CHINGFORD LANE IMPROVEMENTS

Through the perception survey and the co-design workshops with residents, speeding traffic along Chingford Lane came up as a key concern. To respond to this we are proposing the following road changes to Chingford Lane to help reduce traffic speeds, improve safety and make the area more attractive for people wishing to visit Epping Forest.

- Install a raised table which involves raising the road to pavement level to encourage vehicles to slow down, at the following locations:
  - At the junction with The Avenue (mini-roundabout)
  - At the junction Montalt Road (south).
- Upgrade the existing zebra crossing, to the south of the junction on Montalt Road, by raising the crossing to pavement level to encourage vehicles to slow down when approaching the crossing, improving safety for all road users.
- Provide an 'informal' non-signalised crossing point, south of the junction with The Avenue into Epping Forest. We will liaise with the City of London (land owners of Epping Forest) about the crossing to make this more attractive for visitors.

## 5 CYCLE ROUTES

To help people make local journeys by bike we are proposing two local cycle routes that run from the A406 (North Circular Road) through the Highams Park area. Both routes provide connections to and from Walthamstow and would continue into Chingford, which forms another scheme which we will be consulting on later this year. For more information on that scheme visit

[www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/chingford-town-centre](http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk/work-in-your-area/chingford-town-centre)

The planned improvements would have significant benefits for people walking, with many new and upgraded crossings as well as junction improvements that will improve safety and make it a nicer area to walk.


### NEW CYCLE ROUTE A406 TO CHINGFORD (EAST) – BLUE ROUTE ON THE PLAN

We are proposing a local cycle route that runs from the A406 (North Circular Road) to Hatch Lane into Chingford via Friday Hill. To do this we are proposing the following:

- Assess the road surface condition and lighting along the route with the aim of improving the existing cycle track that connects Bridge End with Wadham Road via the road bridge. These improvements will make it more accessible and safer for people who choose to cycle.
- Install a new combined cycle and pedestrian zebra crossing to provide a safer crossing for pedestrians and people who cycle at the following locations:
  - Wadham Road into Beech Hall Road
  - Hale End Road, Beech Hall Road and Handsworth Avenue junction (see image 2)
  - Hatch Lane into Waterhall Avenue.

# Proposed improvements

## Proposed measures

 New crossings

 Traffic calming

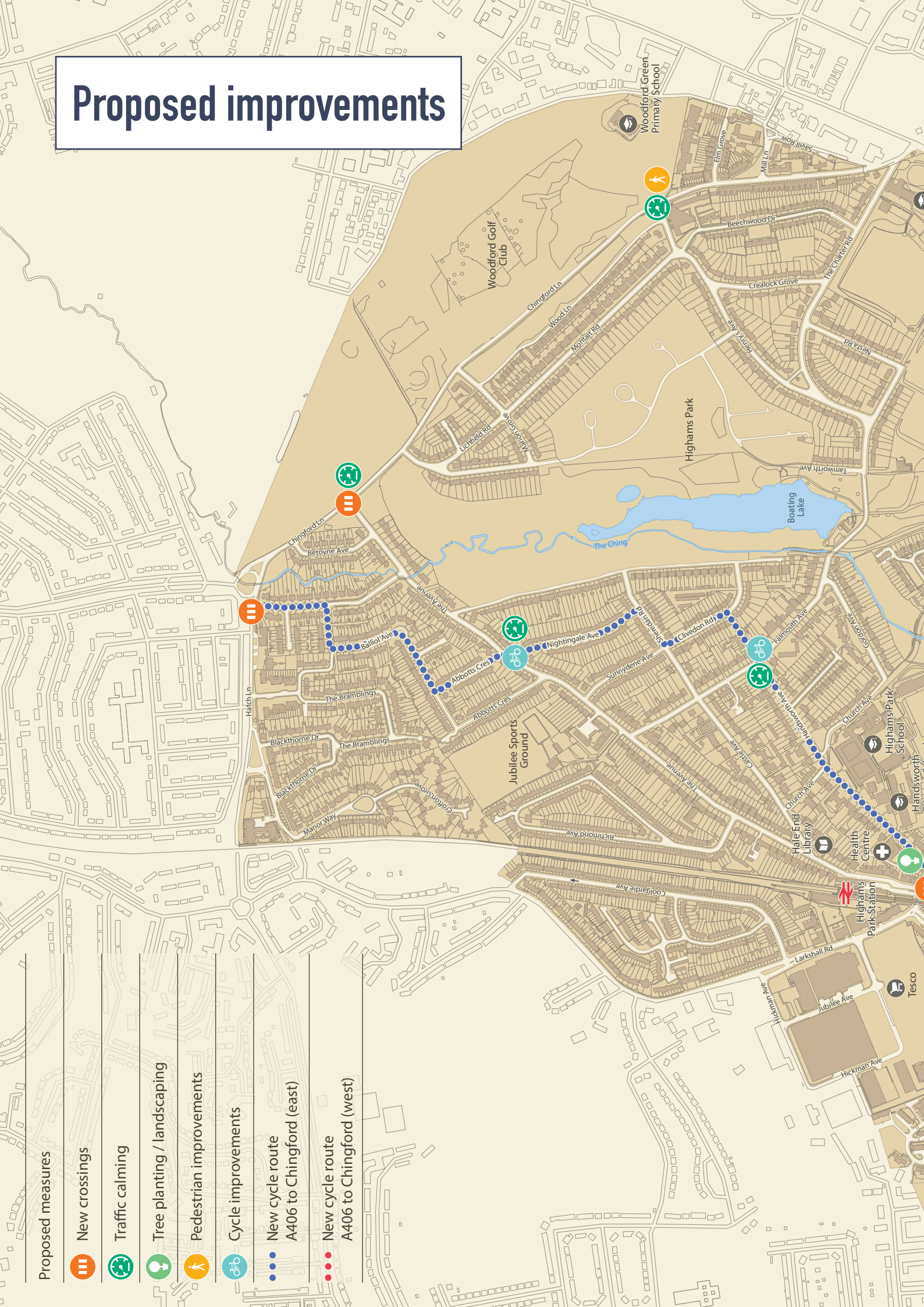
 Tree planting / landscaping

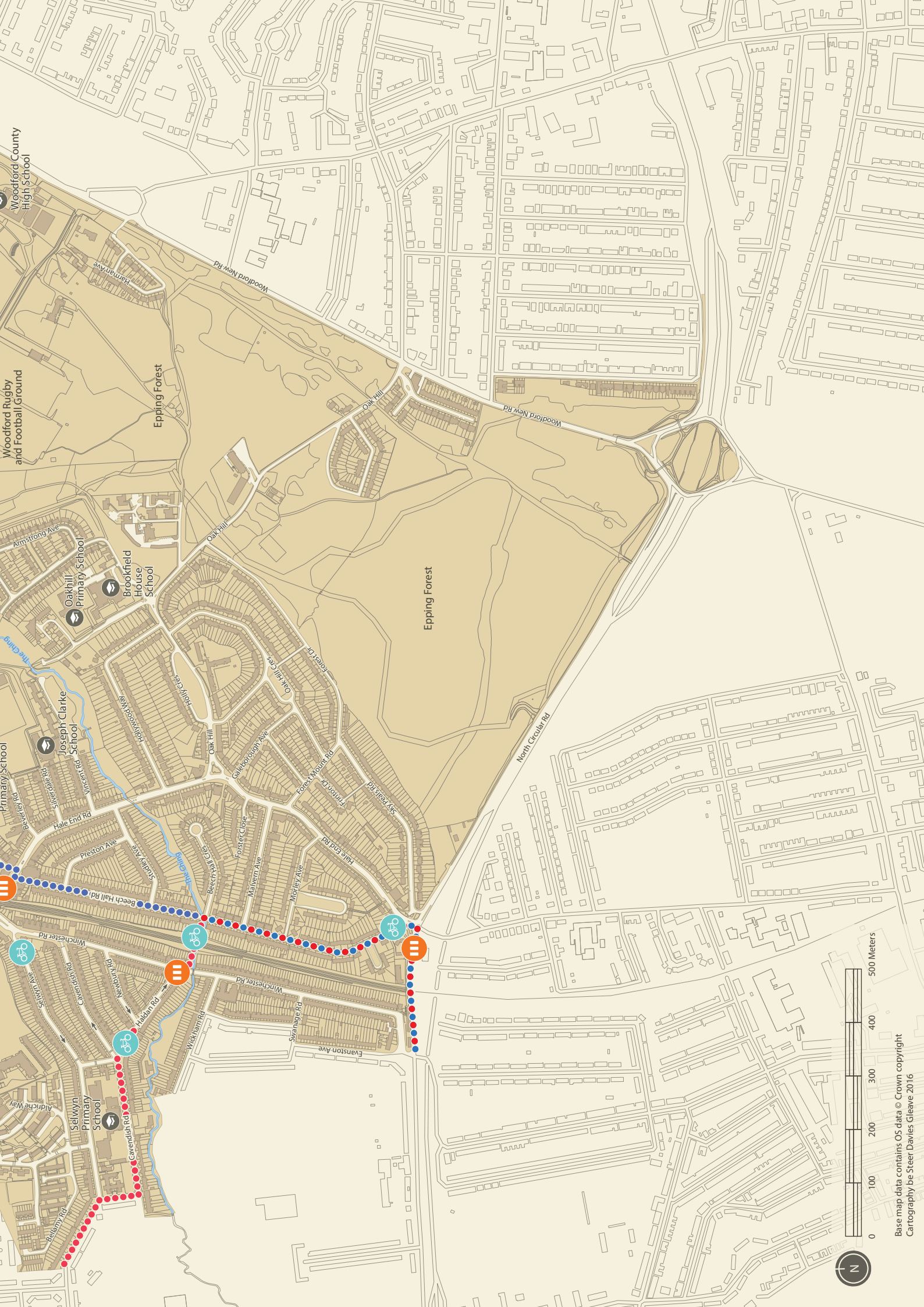
 Pedestrian improvements

 Cycle improvements

 New cycle route  
A406 to Chingford (east)

 New cycle route  
A406 to Chingford (west)





Woodford County High School

Woodford Rugby and Football Ground

Epping Forest

Epping Forest



Base map data contains OS data © Crown copyright  
Cartography by Steer Davies Gleave 2016

## TAKE PART IN THE CONSULTATION

We hope you like the proposals and can see how they will benefit Highams Park Town Centre for everyone. It's important that you help us shape the improvements by telling us your views.

### **Please provide your feedback by 24 July 2016.**

There are a number of ways for you to have your say:

- Online – visit <https://highamparktc.commonplace.is> to complete the questionnaire and provide comments online
- Request a hardcopy of the consultation document and questionnaire by emailing [miniolland@walthamforest.gov.uk](mailto:miniolland@walthamforest.gov.uk) or calling 020 8496 3000

Come and talk to us and view the plans on:

- **Thursday 7 July 6pm to 9pm**  
at Selwyn Primary School, Cavendish Road, Highams Park, E4 9NG
- **Tuesday 12 July 6pm to 9pm**  
at Selwyn Primary School, Cavendish Road, Highams Park, E4 9NG.

## WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

All of the feedback received will be grouped, carefully analysed and used to shape the final design.

Where there are elements of the scheme that are not well supported by residents and businesses, we will look at these again. Where it's possible to make changes based on your comments and suggestions we will, and where we can't we will explain why. A summary of the results and feedback will be sent to everyone who took part after the public consultation stage has ended. This will set out the results and how they have been used to help shape the final design. This will also be available on the website for everyone to see.

Before we get to the design stage, Transport for London (TfL) will also need to approve all of our plans as the funders of the programme.

**For more information visit [www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk](http://www.enjoywalthamforest.co.uk)**



**IMAGE 2. EXAMPLE OF THE NEW COMBINED PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLE ZEBRA CROSSING AT HALE END ROAD, BEECH HALL ROAD AND HANDSWORTH AVENUE JUNCTION.**