

Statement of Reasons for Introducing a New Bus Route and Associated Pedestrian Priority Measures

1. Introduction

This Statement of Reasons sets out the justification for implementing a new bus route, including the installation of raised tables and zebra crossings at selected locations along the corridor. The proposal supports local transport policy objectives and enhances accessibility

2. Purpose of the New Bus Route

The new bus route is being introduced to:

- **Improve public transport connectivity** between key residential areas, employment centres, educational sites and local amenities.
- **Support wider modal shift goals**, encouraging people to travel by sustainable modes rather than private cars.
- **Provide a reliable alternative to car use**, reducing congestion and improving air quality in accordance with borough-level and London-wide transport strategies.
- **Enhance accessibility** for residents with limited mobility by offering frequent, direct bus services where gaps in the network currently exist.

The route has been designed following engagement with local residents, bus operators, the Borough transport team and other stakeholders.

3. Need for Raised Tables and Zebra Crossings

Raised tables and zebra crossings are proposed at strategic points along the route to ensure safe pedestrian access and to support the operational requirements of the bus service. These interventions are necessary to:

3.1 Improve Pedestrian Safety

- Raised tables reduce vehicle speeds by increasing driver awareness and encouraging more cautious driving behaviour.
- Zebra crossings provide clearly defined, priority pedestrian crossing points, reducing the risk of collisions and improving visibility.
- These measures particularly support vulnerable road users, including children, older people, wheelchair users and those with visual impairments.

3.2 Support Access to Bus Stops

- Safe, direct pedestrian routes are essential to the success of a bus service.
- Crossing facilities have been positioned to align with new bus stops, ensuring that passengers can reach stops without detours or unsafe road crossings.
- Raised tables act as natural gateways that alert drivers that they are entering an area of increased pedestrian activity around bus boarding points.

3.3 Encourage Walking and Public Transport Use

- The combination of frequent bus services and safe walking connections makes sustainable travel more attractive.
- Improvements support wider public realm goals by creating a safer, more pleasant streetscape.

4. Alignment with Policy Objectives

The scheme supports the following policy objectives:

- **Local Transport Plan (LTP) priorities:** promoting sustainable travel, reducing reliance on private vehicles and enhancing road safety.
- **Healthy Streets Approach:** creating streets that are easy to walk, cycle, and use public transport.
- **Road Danger Reduction Strategy:** minimising risks for vulnerable road users through design-led interventions.
- **Climate and air quality commitments:** encouraging behavioural shift away from car use to reduce emissions.

5. Traffic and Safety Considerations

Preliminary assessments and site visits have identified locations where vehicle speeds, pedestrian demand and visibility challenges justify the installation of raised tables and zebra crossings. These measures will:

- Moderate traffic speeds to levels appropriate for streets with high pedestrian use.
- Reduce the severity of any potential collisions.
- Ensure that the introduction of the bus route does not result in increased road danger.
- Provide self-enforcing, physical measures that complement the operational needs of the bus service.

6. Conclusion

The introduction of the new bus route, supported by raised tables and zebra crossings, is necessary to:

- Improve public transport access and connectivity.
- Create a safer and more accessible environment for pedestrians.
- Support sustainable travel goals.
- Ensure the long-term success and safe operation of the bus service.

For these reasons, the proposed measures are considered essential and proportionate. The scheme delivers significant community, transport, and safety benefits.