London Borough of Bexley

News Release

For Immediate Release

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WORK CONTINUES TO IMPROVE BEXLEYHEATH TOWN CENTRE

Residents, town users and businesses in Bexleyheath are being asked for their comments on proposed changes to the layout of Albion Road and its main junctions.

The proposed improvements are part of the second phase of a major scheme, funded by Transport for London. The Bexleyheath Town Centre Revitalisation scheme aims to ensure that the Borough's town centre achieves its full potential and attracts more businesses whilst creating a more pleasant environment. The proposed changes to Albion Road will build on the success of the improvement works that have already transformed the eastern part of Broadway from Trinity Place to the police station. Work is due to begin on the proposed improvements in summer 2016 and would be completed in summer 2017.

Cllr Alex Sawyer, Cabinet Member for Traffic and Transport said: "We propose to extend the award-winning Bexleyheath Town Centre Revitalisation scheme which has transformed the public space and business environment in the eastern part of the Broadway to the south side of the town along Albion Road.

"We want to ensure that Bexleyheath Town Centre achieves its full potential and attracts more businesses by improving access for road users, pedestrians and cyclists. To do this we propose to create segregated cycle lanes, better footpaths and pedestrian crossings and to improve access to and from the Broadway Shopping Centre car park."

The main proposals include:

- From the Bowling Centre roundabout to Townley Road roundabout remove most of the central reservation and barrier and provide one lane of carriageway on either side of the road.
- From Townley Road roundabout to Highland Road provide two lanes of carriageway eastbound and reduce to one lane of carriageway westbound.
- From Highland Road to Gravel Hill maintain two lanes of carriageway on both sides.
- New crossing facilities for both pedestrians and cyclists at key locations.
- Re-design of the Albion Road/Gravel Hill junction and Watling Street/Erith Road/Broadway/Gravel Hill junction as roundabouts with signal crossings for pedestrians.

Local residents and businesses will receive a leaflet in November 2015 outlining the proposed changes and asking for their comments. The design drawings will be displayed in the Central Library and then in the Broadway Shopping Centre from 16 November. For more information visit www.bexley.gov.uk/BTCR2 or email BTCR@bexley.gov.uk

Ends

- A map showing the proposed changes to the road is attached.
- The proposed improvement work will cost approximately £3m and will be paid for in full by Transport for London (TfL).
- The proposed changes are the second stage of phase two of the Bexleyheath Town Centre Revitalisation scheme. The scheme, funded by Transport for London, focuses on transport and public realm improvements. The first stage of phase two involves improvements to rejuvenate the western part of the Broadway, from Church Road to Devonshire Road which started in August 2015 and are due to finish in March 2016.
- Phase one of the Bexleyheath Town Centre Revitalisation Scheme won the 'Excellence in Walking and Public Realm' category at the prestigious London Transport Awards 2014. It was a finalist for four other awards and was highly commended at the Urban Transport Design Award 2015 where judges commented that "Practitioners should visit Bexleyheath, observe and see what they can learn".

Attachments

 Albion Road Design Plan - Bexleyheath Town Centre <u>Albion Road Design Plan - Bexleyheath</u> <u>Town Centre</u>



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