

# News Release

**For Immediate Release**

**23 November 2018 / PR 10838**

## **Councils work together to improve Abbey Wood**

Works to transform the streets and public areas in and around Abbey Wood Station continue to make good progress. A second phase begins in Gayton Road on 26 November and will include parts of Wilton Road and Florence Road. The works are planned to finish in spring 2019.

Improvements include new footway paving and raised carriageway areas at key locations, to provide easier pedestrian crossing points and to reduce vehicle speeds. The street scene will be opened up creating new village-style areas, which residents can enjoy. These will have high quality street lighting, street furniture and trees. The changes will provide an attractive ground level route to and from Abbey Wood Station and local shops.

The works are the second phase of a significant programme of improvements funded by London Borough of Bexley, Royal Borough of Greenwich, Transport for London and rail partners and are aimed at ensuring the local community can reap the benefits that the opening of Elizabeth line services at Abbey Wood will bring.

The programme, which began in spring 2017, has already transformed the public areas at the main entrance to the new station and along Harrow Manorway towards Eastern Way. Businesses in Wilton Road have also been helped to make shopfront improvements and to modernise their marketing methods.

Cabinet Member for Places, Cllr Peter Craske, said: "We want to ensure that the local community benefits from the opening of the Elizabeth Line services as much as possible. These works will create a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere for residents, businesses and commuters. I am pleased that we are working with our neighbours at Greenwich. If we all work together we can really benefit our neighbourhoods in the spirit of #doitforbexley."

Cllr Denise Scott-McDonald, Cabinet Member for Air Quality, Public Realm and Transport said: "We welcome this investment – it's not just about making it easier to get to the station, but also making Abbey Wood a safer and more pleasant place to walk, cycle and spend time in. Research from TfL shows that people who walk or cycle to a high street spend 40% more than people who arrive by car, so these

improvements could be a welcome boost for local businesses too.”

Initially the works will have little impact and there will be no bus route closures. During the Christmas period, works will be restricted to allow shops in Gayton Road to operate fully during this busy trading period. At the start of 2019 there may be a need to close Gayton Road for a few weeks and to temporarily make Wilton Road two-way to provide works access. Further information will be provided nearer the time.

Residents and businesses will be consulted on proposals to revise parking and loading restrictions in the area later this year. These will need to change to manage the expected increase in the volume of traffic, pedestrians, bus and taxi users. It is expected that the bays and time limits for parking in Wilton Road will remain very similar to those currently in operation, however start and end times may be changed.

For more information on the improvements go to [www.yourabbeywood.co.uk](http://www.yourabbeywood.co.uk)

Ends

Attachment 1 - map of area affected

Attachments

- Councils work together to improve Abbey Wood [Councils work together to improve Abbey Wood](#)
- Map of area affected by works [Map of area affected by works](#)