

It is now almost two years since the Council wrote to all 12,000 consultees informing them of the consultation results, the strong support of residents and the Council's intention to proceed with the scheme. Due to the Grenfell tragedy a number of projects were delayed. However, there has also been a good deal of additional engagement with Residents' Associations over the past few months, and my colleague Cllr Will Pascall has now approved the Key Decision to proceed with the scheme.

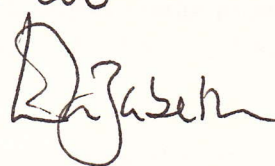
The Key Decision Report sets out the reasons for doing so, and it deals with the key local concern about congestion. The congestion at Knightsbridge is unsatisfactory, but we believe that the Sloane Street scheme would not make this situation any worse. There is a capacity issue at the Brompton Road/Knightsbridge junction with Brompton Road. The timing of the traffic lights there are controlled by TfL, but are also dynamically responsive to the traffic conditions on each of the approach roads.

In the Council's Local Implementation Plan (LIP) response to the Mayor's Transport Strategy (MTS) in January, we made a commitment to work with TfL to see if any changes to this very busy and complex junction with Knightsbridge could be identified. My officers will continue to speak to TfL colleagues about the scope to improve the capacity of the Sloane Street arm of this major junction.

More recently, we have seen that the temporary closure of the Basil Street junction appears to have had a helpful effect on queuing on Sloane Street. The clear commitment to continuing looking for a solution has been made by Cllr Will Pascall, and we are actively monitoring the effects of the Basil Street closure. The long-term future of that junction is something which I'm sure Will would be happy to discuss with the Chelsea Society.

I am pleased that there are many aspects of the project that the Chelsea Society supports, and I hope that we can continue to work together to tackle the congestion issue at the northern end of the road. The project will be phased, starting from Sloane Square to Cadogan Place, so there will be opportunities to investigate Basil Street further.

We recently arranged a meeting to enable two of our local groups to meet the design team involved in Sloane Street. This was held at Cadogan's offices and provided the opportunity to discuss specific technical or design issues about the scheme. If this is of interest to you please let me know and I will ask officers to suggest some dates.

Yours ever


Cllr Elizabeth Campbell
Leader of the Council, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

cc. Cllr Will Pascall, Cllr Walaa Idris, Cllr Sof McVeigh, Cllr Mary Weale