



**JAMES MCGINLAY – Assistant Director
for Sustainable Communities
London Borough of Merton
Merton Civic Centre
London Road
Morden SM4 5DX**

Direct Line: 020 8545 3208

Date: 11 September 2020

Dear residents,

Re: road closure to vehicles at Graham Road / Hartfield road northern junction

Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to apologise to all affected residents for not notifying them of the closure of the northern junction of Graham Road with Hartfield Road to vehicular traffic. This was due in large to a number of changes to the timetable for these works which were due to start earlier in the year, but were unfortunately delayed due to COVID-19. The difficult decision taken to close Graham Road hasn't been taken lightly, however the safety of all road users and residents is and will continue to be the Council's primary focus.

Taking the safety of all road users and residents of Graham Road into consideration, the difficult decision was taken to close Graham Road to vehicle traffic at the junction of Hartfield Road for a period of 18 months while development takes place on site. This end of Graham road will remain open for pedestrians and cyclists. We consider this is the safest solution as it maintains resident access to the whole of Graham Road while providing safety for all road users while these works take place.

The road closure will be closely monitored by Merton Council's Network Coordination Team, which will continue to work with the site manager and contractors on any necessary adjustments or improvements which can improve site safety while supporting the needs of local residents. We fully welcome the comments and suggestions received from local residents and we will continue to assess all of these to see what we can take forward. We can also assure all those affected that we are listening to the concerns that have been raised so far and will be instructing the Contractor on site to make the necessary amendments to the site layout to facilitate the welfare units in a position so that they are not directly visible to residential properties.

To assist in the delivery of these works, Merton Council has instructed the contractor that Traffic Marshalls must accommodate and facilitate pedestrian and cyclist movements between Graham Road and Hartfield Road when vehicles arrive and leave the site to ensure they are safe. The diversion of vehicular traffic and the impact on residents living in Graham Road was also given extensive consideration. We will

continue to ensure that both pedestrians and cyclists maintain safe access into Graham Road from Hartfield Road.

The road closure is due to be in place on 14th September for 18 months. Merton Council's Network Coordination Team will instruct the site to keep residents up to date on all developments of the project and their timeline. We will also ensure that any changes to the Traffic Management or impact on the residents will be notified in a timely manner.

For more information on all council roadworks, please see the council's website www.merton.gov.uk/current-roadworks-and-traffic-disruptions

Once again, I would like to apologise to you for the delay in notifying you about the closure of Graham Road at the northern junction with Hartfield Road to vehicle traffic. I'd like to reassure you that we will continue to monitor the road closure to ensure that all works and impacts are kept to an absolute minimum and to ensure these works are completed as quickly and safely as possible.

Yours faithfully

Tara Butler
FutureMerton