

## **20mph Consultation in Balham & Furzedown taking place right now**

### **Borough Elections coming up**

#### **Wandsworth Living Streets Update No. 4, mid-March 2014**

### **20mph Consultation is taking place in Balham and Tooting right now**

In our first Wandsworth Living Streets update this year (*20mph in Wandsworth – Where have we got to?*), we reported that two large petitions for 20mph had been presented to the Council from Bedford and Furzedown Wards – in Balham and Tooting respectively – in December.

The latest news is that the Council has just issued a press release (12 March) saying that consultation is now under way with 30,000 residents in these two wards “asking everyone ... if they want a lower speed limit in the streets where they live.” Every home in these two wards has been sent a detailed questionnaire explaining what is being proposed and asking people whether they agree or disagree with the idea.

#### **The consultation period is very short – closing on Friday 4 April.**

It is vitally important that as many local residents in **Balham and Furzedown Wards** respond to this questionnaire. Cllr Russell King, the Cabinet member responsible for transport issues, has promised: “If a majority support their introduction [20mph zones], then that is what will happen.”

#### **What you can do NOW:**

- If you live in Balham or Furzedown Wards, do please respond to the Council’s questionnaire.
- Please get your neighbours and friends in these two wards also to respond.
- If you don’t live in these two wards but know people who do, please give them a ring and urge them to respond.

### **Polling Day – Thursday, 22 May**

The local Borough Council elections and Euro elections are still two months away. But you may like to note some of the following dates for local hustings. On 22 May, we Londoners go to the polls to elect our Borough Councillors (the next London Mayoral election is still two years down the road). And the whole country has a chance to elect its Euro MPs.

Already the Battersea, Putney and Wandsworth Societies are organizing local hustings. Representatives of all the political parties putting up candidates for Wandsworth Council will be invited. And we will see quite a large number of new faces being put forward for election as Councillors.

The hustings are an opportunity for all of us to ask questions and raise our concerns about the issues that the newly elected Council ought to pay special attention to.

### **Making our pedestrian voice heard**

As a supporter of Wandsworth Living Streets, we hope that as many of us as possible will attend at least one of these meetings. There are many issues of importance to talk about, including housing, jobs, schools, services etc.

**Let's also make clear one issue which all of us, regardless of party affiliation, can agree on – making our local shopping and high streets easier to access on foot, safer places for us pedestrians to be, more attractive places to spend time on, and more thriving as local shopping venues.**

Living Streets is going to send the leaders of each political party in every London borough **an outline of practical, inexpensive things Councillors can commit to getting done, if elected, in order to transform our streetscapes into spaces we can enjoy, be safe on, and feel proud of.** Next month Wandsworth Living Streets will send a copy of this booklet to each of you as a supporter by email. Do take a print-out along to any public hustings event you are attending, and ask candidates to commit to the principle of making our local shopping and high streets more thriving, safer, attractive places.

### **Details of the hustings – dates and venues**

#### **Wednesday 9 April, 7.30pm**

**Battersea Society-organised Borough Council hustings** – All Saints Church, 100 Prince of Wales Drive, SW11 4BD (near Queenstown Road roundabout).

#### **Thursday 10 April, 7.45pm**

**Wandsworth Society-organised Borough Council hustings** -- West Side Church, c/o Melody Road and Allfarthing Lane. Leader of the Council, Cllr Ravi Govindia and representatives of the other parties will be present.

#### **Thursday 1 May, 7.30pm.**

**Euro Election Hustings** – St Mary's Church, Putney Bridge. The Putney Society is organising this.

#### **Thursday, 8 May, 7.30 pm.**

**Putney Society-organized Borough Council hustings:** In Roehampton for Roehampton & West Putney Wards (actual location not yet finalised).

#### **Thursday, 15 May, 7.30 pm.**

**Putney Society-organized Borough Council hustings:**, St Mary's Church, Putney Bridge for Thamesfield & East Putney Wards in particular.

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Secretary

WANDSWORTH LIVING STREETS

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