

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 16 March 2021 23:09  
**To:** [REDACTED]@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** M25 Junction28 proposed improvements - Concerns

Dear Planning Team

Please find below our concerns regarding the proposal above. Whilst we appreciate that traffic flow needs to be improved on the M25 the human impact has not been fully respected. We had been residents at [REDACTED] and the changes due to traffic and pollution have affected our well being due to sleep disruption and increased stress due to traffic delays.

**Key concerns are:**

Road safety and volume of traffic:

Due to overall increased traffic flow there is already very limited time to exit both Kenilworth and Woodstock

Avenue onto the A12 safely. When lights on the A12 change there is a large amount of traffic coming left off Petersfield Avenue. Overtime this has massively increased due to the rapid increase in housing on Harold hill and increased car use. Traffic speed of 50mph along the A12 is too fast as cars accelerate through the lights and often appear to exceed 50 mph again leaving less time to pull out safely.

The exit at Kenilworth onto the A12 does not line up with the lights so any turn out towards the lights has to be executed carefully to avoid breaching the lanes. Unfortunately due to volume of traffic it has become a regular occurrence that cars are chancing getting into the queue to turn at Harold Court/A12 lights, resulting in cars jutting out into the lanes on the A12 - further accidents can be expected here.

Increased activity at Grove Farm contributes to delays at the M25 junction as large lorries turn in and out right next to the M25 lights as well as increased noise and pollution. As yet we are unsure as to the impact of the gardens of Peace on the other side of the A12.

Historic deals done by the council incumbent at the time of the M25/A12 development has meant that current residents are suffering due to lack of foresight and traffic management planning. The suspect historic deal of reduced rates for Woodstock Avenue residents to compensate for lack of right turn out of the road has long since been eroded, leaving current residents trapped by lack of safe exit out of Woodstock Avenue, with no right access or U turn and only option of going around the accident hotspot of junction 28 of the M25. It seems inconceivable now that this type of deal was brokered as the volume of traffic on the A12 and M25 has grown exponentially.

Parking - When Woodstock Avenue was built households did not have multiple car ownership - it is now commonplace to have at least 2 cars per household. Where are all these cars to park if not outside their own residences? Any suggestion to routinely park elsewhere is ludicrous as this is not physically possible for some disabled resident, those with small children, or lone individuals due to the risk of assault. It also puts individuals at risk if they need to access their car in an emergency situation. It will of course negatively affect car insurance compliance - affecting the residents again not the users of the M25. It is not a practicable option to park elsewhere.

Emergency services access - The recent pandemic has highlighted the need for emergency services to be able to get to patients in a timely manner - we are not out of this situation yet and with the impending road works huge amounts of traffic will be building up at the junction (more so than usual) or a long diversion to Shenfield implemented, putting lives unacceptably at risk due to traffic delays.

Noise pollution - after the increase to 4 lanes on the M25 we can now hear traffic through our double glazing at all times and in the garden consistently - this was never the case before the road widening. In the summer it is particularly miserable as the need for ventilation increases but traffic noise disrupts sleep anyway. This increase in traffic noise is completely unacceptable and can only be the result of increased traffic, poor quality road surfacing and lack of ambient noise baffling. As residents of two decades we are very clear this has changed and are at a loss when told repeatedly by planners that it is all within acceptable limits. We are living the experience - it is not a paper based exercise.

Air quality - queuing traffic on the A12 due to disruption at the M25 junction or from the A12 traffic light queues especially the turning onto Petersfield which now backs up consistently (Due to increased households and car users on Harold Hill).

**Request:**

**Rapid implementation of temporary U-Turn between Woodstock and the exit slip road on the A12 exit**

Time and time again residents have requested that a safe exit from Woodstock Avenue be implemented this has repeatedly been ignored. Apparently every journey matters to the Mayor of London but not if you are a resident of Woodstock Avenue in the Borough of Havering, it is perfectly acceptable to council boards, planners and traffic consultants to work on the bigger picture whilst sidestepping the human cost to local residents. In the grand scheme of things it is not an unreasonable request to ask for safe exit by car out of our road via a U turn before the M25 sliproad. Havering Council has focussed on building housing and not concurrently addressed infrastructure and traffic management.

Three years is a long time to be able to cope with the changes and inevitable disturbances proposed by Highways England we sincerely hope that residents are actually listened to as we have already lived through the miserable experience of the M25 road widening programme and some of the ongoing negative consequences. The implementation of a turning out of Woodstock Avenue before the M25 junction would demonstrate joined up thinking by all agencies involved and actually respect the justifiable concerns of residents and at last overturning poor historic planning.

Yours sincerely

Mr Christopher Strutt & Mrs Tina Preston-Strutt



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