

## **Comments Received on Lewisham Road Closures**

Responses have been anonymised for privacy reasons. Comments may have been edited for grammar, spelling and brevity only.

### **Comments Received After Adjusted Road Closures (prior to 02/04/2021 from 18/10/2020)**

“I agree that the road closures on spurious grounds (COVID, the environment, schools...) are making traffic worse, not better, in Lewisham. (I am referring to your pamphlet, which I have received.). They are typical of those misguided and, quite frankly, stupid initiatives on the part of Lewisham Council: instead of helping motorists and residents, in these very difficult times, they hamper and aggravate taxpayers, making everyday life difficult. These measures are counter-productive and cretinous, imposed without proper consultation. They should be suspended with immediate effect. They do not solve any problem at all: they merely displace existing (traffic) problems. I live in Lee (SE 12). I have written to the Mayor of Lewisham over this”. (P.J.)

“I agree that the recent road closures in Lewisham have certainly increased traffic congestion on the main roads. Many local journeys are longer in time and distance travelled. Air pollution by car exhaust fumes has almost certainly increased; the opposite of the council's declared intentions. The council believes residents will walk and bicycle more - eventually. This may happen a little, but I believe it will not compensate for the extra pollution, time wasted and fuel consumed. Eventually; how long will we have to wait to see if they are correct? Meanwhile the health and quality of life of most residents is affected, and pollution continues to accumulate”. (D.B.)

“As a direct result of LTNs the congestion levels on Burnt Ash Hill caused the 202 which our grandchildren were on (just for the 3rd time after the lockdown), to get to school, to terminate between stops. Luckily the 12 year old had a phone so she could ring us. They were both very distressed and my 76 year old husband had to run half a mile to collect them and bring them back to our house. He then had to take them to school by car!!!”. The same situation happened a few days later. Obviously they are now very wary of using public transport” (E.N.)

“We are objecting to all the road closures because: 1. There has been no public consultation on these proposals and councillors are ignoring anyone who opposes these closures. We have sent at least 12 emails to the mayor and councillors and not one has replied, other than to say they are too busy. Lewisham Council have acted in the most undemocratic fashion in implementing these LTNs. This has been done, supposedly, to reduce pollution. When you see people driving around trying to find a way through, it has, we suspect, achieved exactly the opposite; 2. We have heard from tradespeople on Manor Lane and Hither Green that they have lost a substantial amount of business because of lack of access; 3. Adults and children are being turned off buses because the transport cannot get through because of congestion; 4. From first hand observation traffic is stationary from the Tigers Head traffic lights back to beyond Sutcliffe Park.

Often Lee High Road is also often stationary. Regularly traffic is waiting for 7 or more changes of traffic lights at the Tigers Head; 5. Again from first-hand experience a person told us that houses inside the LTNs are being sold at £50,000 more than an identical property outside, because of being on a 'no through road'; 6. We have heard that emergency vehicles are having problems reaching their destinations. We think the whole implementation is a disgrace and it is setting up neighbour against neighbour and causing extreme division at a very difficult time". (E.N.)

"As a Local and a Car Driver I find it Very Inconvenient, having to go all around the houses (other people's houses) in order to get to where I am going. In a long diversion". (M.N..)

"I would like to object to the closure of Lewisham roads in the name of Covid pandemic!! What has it got to do with roads? The closure makes drivers' lives very difficult! Congestion is just ridiculous if you want to get somewhere you have to wake up early enough to beat the traffic jams!". (C.D)

"I live in SE12 and am fed up with the LTN's and would like further information about how to get my voice heard". (M.B.)

"I have received a leaflet today regarding the above and am interested in receiving more information including how to object. The road closures were stealthily introduced under the guise of Covid and currently the multiple roadworks being carried out by Lewisham Council to ensure that any remaining budget is spent before the end of the fiscal year is adding to the already horrendous traffic" (S.A.)

"I am writing to protest about the far too many road closures in and around my home in Lee. Cars, vans and heavy vehicles are coming off the congested A20 and trying to take short cuts through Winn Road where I live at the top near Burnt Ash Hill. Therefore I have to suffer the noise of a morning while the vehicles queue up to turn into Burnt Ash Hill and close windows to stop the fumes floating in. Please consider what these road closures are doing to us residents as well as the drivers". (A.L.)

"We are now having to fight the council on another front as Pragnell Road where I live has been designated a School Traffic Free Road. During certain hours in the morning and evening the road will be No Entry. Residents will have to prove they reside there by providing Vehicle Registration documents. Delivery drivers will have to prebook with the council or risk getting a fine. I would imagine few will understand this and unintentionally incur penalties. Yet another money-making scheme for Lewisham's cowboy council". (D.L.)

"Why don't the lefty councils take a leaf out of the classy boroughs like Bexley. Bexley council have parking restrictions that make sense. Only restricted between 12-2pm to prevent people parking all day for the stations. Those roads only need to have an inspection between a very short time. I'm a driving instructor and drive 30 miles to work in Lewisham and Peckham, I've done so since 1991. The idiots didn't even consult the driving test centre at Hither Green - the test centre that serves a vast area is now considering a relocation.

How do companies that need their vehicles for work deal with this? It's making me so sick thinking about how to deal with my work. I am changing my work times to start at 6am....leaving home at 4.45am". (L.D.)

"I have received your leaflet, and I am interested in joining your campaign. The road closures in Lewisham have been ill thought out have affected me personally. I have to drive my daughter daily to a special needs school in Victoria and the road closures have added more time and stress to what already is a very long school run". (J.B.)

"I would like to add my name to those objecting to the road closures, introduced by Lewisham BC, as I live in a small residential street which is now being used as a shortcut, due to these irrational and unnecessary restrictions, which have greatly increased congestion and atmospheric pollution. In the mornings, in my street, people are queueing up enter to enter Le May Avenue". (N.P.)

"I would just like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you for all the work you are doing on our behalf to oppose these ridiculous road closures in and around Lewisham/Greenwich, we all know that this is the short end of the wedge. I have lived in forest hill all my life, and now at 63 years of age I thought I had seen it all from this car hating labour run councils but I am wrong. Having now witnessed the Bus/cycle lanes in lower road greenwich we know what is coming - completely unnecessary congestion. These lanes are not only dangerous but do nothing to stop pollution from standing traffic. I wonder if the accident rate on these roads will be monitored once these lanes go live in the next week or so". (G.J.)

"Thank you for what you are doing re the Draconian rules coming into play for motorists in Lewisham. Please find attached the email I sent to the email address you provided for Lewisham council: Dear Lewisham Council, I am writing to raise my concerns with regard to all the road closures and measures being put in place to force traffic onto the south circular road which affects pollution levels adversely and makes moving around Lewisham even more difficult than it has become over recent years due to increased road closures, parking restrictions and so on and so forth. Public transport is not great in Lewisham particularly in Se6 where I live. We really need our vehicles for work, we are being severely penalised by the extension of the ULEZ charge as businesses who have euro 5 diesel vans which meet exactly the same emission requirements to pass an MOT test as euro 6 and which have catalytic converters. Some of us are way too old to ride a bike everywhere and certainly cannot get to the shops or anywhere else easily without a vehicle. I have lived in London since 1978 and this penalisation of motorists is extremely oppressive and taxing pardon the pun. I do believe the Council could better spend the money currently spent on cameras and control rooms on improved public transport for the Bellingham/ Perry Hill to Forest Hill area and community policing which is non-existent. Time for a change and for all the people who really want to stop climate change do something about the destruction of forests across the world as that is causing the biggest problem re the atmosphere and increase in carbon dioxide emissions!! We should be caring for our environment but not bullying Motorists. It is a very fine line between caring and oppression!" (V.S.)

"I live on Burnt Ash Road and been totally disgusted with the road closures that have occurred in the area. I sent this to 'tfl-Lewisham' earlier on today after seeing your e-mail: Dear Sir/Madam, Firstly, due to road closures in the SE12 (Lee) area, traffic along Burnt Ash Road has significantly increased, along with its pollution. I live on that road and when I have windows open, you can almost taste the fumes from the constant jams that occur at both rush hours, on both sides, each day. I just wondered if there was any scientific evidence that closing roads has (or will?) prevent COVID from spreading? If you're unable to find any, please could you tell me the exact benefit it's having on the current situation? I honestly think that making life easier for people during this Pandemic would be better than closing roads. Many thanks & look forward to hearing from you. - I do hope they change their minds from this silly decision". (R.D.)

"Lewisham council cannot provide information as to how many complaints they received. Re the recent road closures I did write that for three month period 18/08/20 to 16/11/20 they raised £2,474,817 but cannot provide information where the money has been spent. Absolutely a borough which is basically anti working people especially as so many firms expect their employees to provide own transport, e.g. carers, shift workers, British Gas, utilities companies, taxi drivers, plumbers,...." (R.N.)

"Thank you for the recent updates. You are doing such a wonderful job and I'm 100% with you on this. We all have to stand up to the corrupt and controlling government as they will continue to take more of our freedoms away the longer this planned evil goes on. I just pray that all the corruption and lies we are all being fed will be revealed and severe punishments are served on all the guilty involved". (S.B.)

"Thank you for all your hard work. We certainly could do with more people like you to oppose these bureaucrats who take it upon themselves to make decisions without consulting the people it's going to affect. Could you confirm if Manor Lane is open to cars and motorbikes? My son had to go to Selco on the old Chiltonian site he asked the man in the shop how business was since road closures and he informed him that it was open to cars and motorbikes but not HGV vehicles could you confirm if this is correct, as I don't want to chance getting a fine and lining the council's pocket again. Thank you once again, keep up the good work it is much appreciated". (S.G.)

"To [traffic@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:traffic@lewisham.gov.uk) . I understand that you were contacted in November with a request under the FOI Act to confirm how many Lewisham residents had objected to the road closures. Despite the time limit having lapsed, this information has still not been made available to the complainant, who is acting on behalf of Lewisham residents. How can anyone make objective decisions on the viability of legislation or a scheme if the responses cannot be quantified? It means the councils responses must be based on little more than hearsay. How many e-mails have you received? How many Letters? How many objection have you had on "Commonplace"? I know you place a great deal of store in this system, despite it being little known amongst residents. Even when they are aware the majority don't have the time to register on it! I find Lewisham councils attitude on this subject totally deplorable and flying in the face of an "Open and Accountable" council.

Can you advise when the number of objections (even if in an estimated format) will be made available to us the residents of Lewisham?”. (D.L.)

“These local councils and government don’t understand that people don’t work and live close together. Lots of people come more than 30 miles to work (like me). I can’t come by public transport and this is the same for most people, they need their vehicle to work with....I am a driving instructor and have always worked in southeast London. We have moved further and further away but I’m not changing my work location. When I drive on the M20 to work I don’t see people going to work in cars on the motorway that work in offices (they will be on the train). 80% of vehicles on the motorway are vans and sign written vehicles, the vehicles they need to work from. These government and council types presume everyone lives around the corner from work, this is just not true. This is the main thing they must be made aware of. This fight will go on and we “the motorist” will win!!”. (L.B.)

“To who it may concern. I am writing to express my dismay at the closure of Silverdale in Sydenham. This has caused enormous tailbacks along mayow road, leading into sydenham road. This junction is now extremely busy, and sydenham road was already very busy before covid. I would anticipate that this will lead to extremely high pollution levels, with worrying effects on the health of children, as has been the case in Catford”. (J.B.)

“And a happy Xmas to you. Let’s keep up the good work, day and night, on getting rid of this stupid LTN in Lee. I am regularly asking the Mayor’s office why they are deliberately making it difficult for the sick and elderly to get to Lewisham Hospital, in the midst of a Covid crisis, owing to the road blocks around Hither Green station. His office are struggling with their replies to me”. (G.P.)

“Hi again Roger, the thing that annoys me is that the UK are already moderate or good with pollution. Waqi.info shows that and on a recent pie chart it had the whole of Europe responsible for 9% of pollution so the UK must be 1% if that! I have just checked and the air pollution of my area in Lee it’s at 2 which is moderate! It seems to me that Khan and his Labour Councils just want to leave a legacy that makes them seem like they are saving the world at the expense of the car driver. When Ulez is extended to the circumference of the South and North Circular next year it will cause major hardship for those living inside them needing to buy new vehicles, it’s a disgrace” (A.S.)

“I was in Lewisham on Saturday mid-afternoon waiting for Mrs W who was in a shop. I counted 16 or 17 buses coming north up the high street. They are in fact all in a very long queue waiting for the lights where Lewis Grove meets Lee High Rd. I suppose it is a consequence of Lewisham Council’s deliberately manufactured congestion. I am unsure whether it is a good idea or not to send it to the councillors because I don’t really remember whether the queue was typically that bad a year ago. Another congestion point is the right turn from Lee High Rd into Burnt Ash by the Lee Sainsbury. Only 3 cars at a time get to turn R because there is no armistice.

This means the right turn queue tails back a long way towards Lewisham on a Saturday, indeed far enough back to the bend such that buses in the bus lane (which necessarily ends just before the bend) cannot reach the lights to go straight on, I also have a photo of that. This means that the 122 to Woolwich is delayed by the right turn queue although not as badly as the 261 which must wait to turn R. It has always been a disastrous junction and my road Manor Park was formerly a useful relief road for it". (S.W.)

"I would like to tell you that I am not happy with Lewisham Councils LTN scheme. Making hostile environments for car users, causing delays and traffic, is making my daily life so hard. I work for a local authority myself which requires I am a compulsory car user. I must have my car in order to carry out my role. Coming home after a day's work only to sit in endless traffic and delays caused by Lewisham Council is frightful. It's obviously a noble position to take, making cleaner air and encouraging healthier lifestyles etc. But driving, owning and using cars are legal in this country. You are penalising car users and making daily life so difficult. I feel so angry and upset with Lewisham Council. What makes things worse is the complete lack of transparency; refusal to publish the objections to the LTN and general we know best policy. In recent years I've come to believe that the Council are making life so difficult, I will end up moving away from the Borough. My thinking is that the issues that are important to me are not represented in the Council. It's such lazy democracy, having no opposition in the Council and basically getting away with crap policies without scrutiny. It's a legal protection racket. I know one moany email won't change policy but next time you vote on policy areas, can you take into account that Lewisham is more than a sanctuary for refugees, asylum seekers and migrants. I go to work so I can pay my bills. I don't expect my local Borough to actively create a policy which is making my life harder. I'm starting to hate living in Lewisham and believe that for whatever reason Lewisham Council wants hard working people like me to live somewhere else. It's such a shame because I used to be such a strong Labour supporter, especially in the local elections. It's horrible to think that the Council is deliberately acting against me and not working for me. It's like every day I drive home, I feel so trapped and suffocated by the Councils LTN. It's a constant reminder that Lewisham and Labour do absolutely nothing for people like me". (P.M.)

"Thank you so much for the information. I found, along with friends, that Lewisham Councillors either totally ignore emails and letters or say no funds. As for Lewisham MPs the same – they just don't want to get involved or stay on the fence knowing they are in a safe seat ( these due to years of Gerrymandering building developments". (R.N.)

"I wish to object to Lewisham's policy of road closures. The decision is causing chaos in Lewisham and unnecessary traffic build up, particularly in and around the town centre. The fumes caused by traffic jams is increasing pollution in various areas around Lewisham. I used to take 15 min to travel west to east now can take up to 45 min. Please reconsider this decision". (R.S.)

“We have been adversely affected by the road closures in Lewisham. Our favourite route, which was never very busy, has been closed and there are never more than a couple of cyclists to be seen. Our journey now takes twice as long along the crowded and polluted main road. We would like to add our name to the list of protesters”.  
(L.C.)

“I wish to register my objection to the road closures in Lewisham and Lee areas. The traffic is appalling and the pollution now concentrated from slow moving vehicles into the surrounding areas. I am considering moving out of the area as a result. Please advise me how my voice may be heard”. (L.G.)

“In normal times I come from Brockley via Lewisham and Lee - Marvels Lane/Mottingham to Chislehurst. The road closures in Lee area are a nightmare and surely must cause more air pollution as well as terrible congestion! I will need to add thirty minutes to my journey each day - 4 times per day, if/when things return to normal. To have this in Brockley and surrounding districts will be awful- we have lived with our local 'rat runs' for ages and mainly it works well. Putting in road closures will bring the whole area to a grinding halt - causing far more pollution/road rage/law breaking! I have 2 tickets telling me I went through a bus 'gap' in Manor Lane - all it said on their sign was ' No Through Way to Lee High Road' and that's all - they want me to pay £260 for the privilege!” (P.T.)

“I wish to object to the closure of roads in the Lewisham borough. The current road closures have created severe congestion which has worsened air pollution on these roads and vehicles rerouting to what were previously quiet roads. Some journeys cannot be taken on public transport or bike by local residents and therefore journey times are taking more than twice the length of time than they did before”. (E.T.)

“As a frustrated resident, anything I can do to support you, please let me know! My parents live in the lee area and it's caused so much traffic. The whole thing is a joke”.  
(S.A.)

“Dear Cllr Bill Brown, I watched online the committee this evening, with regard to LTN's, also known as LTNK's, the reason being that it is a socially divisive measure which your committee has failed to grasp. If you live inside an LTNK life has got better, the air quality has, sound pollution and your house price. If you live outside the LTNK and are affected by them it is the opposite, more traffic pollution, sound pollution and irate drivers, and by the way your house price has decreased. And will you stop focussing solely on Lee Green. All neighbouring council LTNK's affect Lewisham residents - they have a ripple effect. If you continue to push traffic onto A roads and B roads you will need to review and reclassify the roads, as this exercise has not been done in years and is sadly overdue, due to the difference in traffic compared to original classification and history. The old Brighton Road is not the only way to get to Brighton, and it is exactly the same for my B road which is between 2 A roads because of the history of the road taking cargo from Deptford Docks to the old South Circular. Therefore my B road takes all the signposted traffic, the SAT NAV traffic, although it has one of the closest doorstep to exhaust pipe distance in the borough. As the A roads are gridlocked cars from the B roads can no longer access them and therefore we have traffic backing up the whole road.

Take Addey & Stanhope School in Deptford negatively affected by Greenwich LTNK's. Prior to the LTNK's the traffic was bumper to bumper at elongated rush hours, it is now gridlocked all day as all traffic is forced onto the A2 - which is single lane at this point. If you can't see the difference between this socially divisive measure taking this school and Crooms Hill, Greenwich as an example, then you are in denial. I'm a cyclist, environmentalist and have two young children and strongly support folk cycling, walking and ditching the car, but it is horrifying to see that no one on your council could clearly speak up for the negative impact of these LTNK's. I strongly support school streets and closing single streets off, i.e. Brockley train station, but whole blocks or areas are just creating gated communities v polluted neighbourhoods and pushing traffic onto residential B roads and A roads [not just the south circular] is not acceptable. The South Circular itself is not a peripherique which one uses to avoid French town centres, it's a lot smaller in design and capability and residential. When can the public speak at these meetings to drum some non politically driven opinions on LTNK's at your councillors and executives". (A.H.)

"I am enclosing copy of a letter sent to the Guardian the other week. The sentiments expressed mirror my own views. I note the report from Lewisham ahead of the meeting tomorrow. I do not trust the council and their 'consultations'. An acquaintance who attended a public meeting at the start of these so-called consultations was told off the record that the council was going ahead with their schemes irrespective of residents' views. I just wonder what sort of questions were put to residents! Since the flower box closures plus the camera operated closures of many routes I have noticed an increase in traffic where I live, and what is worse, people are driving much much faster than 20mph in order to make up for lost time in trying to avoid the traffic queues along Burnt Ash crossing the South Circular. I also find the increased time for a bus journey as cited by the council as extraordinary. When a far shorter journey on some of the bus routes has taken me 10,15 and 20 minutes longer. The closures have just pushed traffic on to someone else's doorstep. Many trades people I have spoken to all state how unworkable the system is for them and obviously for us as delivery and care workers are having to allow much longer for visits. Delivery drivers are paid for the number of deliveries they achieve and are expected to deliver. I am quite upset by how people are getting this foisted on them. I drive, cycle and walk in my locality - as someone put on a poster I saw: we are not rats, we are using roads and routes to spend the least possible time driving and thus emitting fumes!". (E.K.)

"Thank you for sending me the updates. Well done! You're doing a great job. I totally agree with your views and we all need to stand up to this very corrupt and controlling government. Slowly taking our freedoms away". (S.D.)

"I would like to complain about the road closures in Lewisham. The road closures are causing consistent congestion on Lee High Road and resulting in more air pollution and noise. It also makes it challenging to drive around without going round in circles to leave the area. I recently got issued a ticket on a road that I usually drive down that was suddenly closed.

The road is still open to drive down and is very misleading as I have seen many drivers fall prey to this. It is important to consult the public before enforcing such decisions that heavily affect our travel and something needs to be done about this". (E.P.)

"Thank you for running this campaign on our behalf. The worst gridlock in Verdant Lane seems to have eased, but my son has lost an hour or more each day sitting in traffic to get to work. Public consultation is definitely needed" (C.C.)

"I wish to strongly object to roads being closed by the borough of Lewisham. There has been no consultation and there are serious delays and disruption being caused by these closures. The measures should all be reversed immediately". (N.W.)

"The most fascinating thing is, not only has this gone on since 29th June 2020, not only have we repeatedly asked for accurate, correct and visible signage for any incoming driver but we now have the laughable situation, you can only laugh as it is so ridiculous, that residents of Hither Green now have direct access, by vehicle, to Lee Green Ward but have to take a circuitous route to get back to where they live. Lee Green Ward residents, living north of the barriers on Manor Lane, MLT and Manor Park, Northbrook, the Cordwell Estate, Murillo, Rembrandt, Abernethy, Lochabar etc etc, cannot get directly into their own ward, let alone other parts of the LBL, unless they are returning home. But, we have to take advantage of the virtual one way systems now created on Ennersdale Road, Leahurst Road and Manor Park. It is not only national government and regional government that have lost the plot completely, and keep spending more and more money tweaking their bad errors of judgement in the first place. It costs us all, and not just in public money". (P.R.)

"Well, this is welcome news and at last a common-sense approach, however this good news has been offset (sadly) by the banned left turns from Rushey Green/Lewisham High Street into Mount Pleasant Road, Roxley Road and Rosenthal Road. Not only are these banned turns pointless they are pushing traffic into ever increasing divert routes that only serves to increase pollution. Surely the whole point of the LTN's was to REDUCE pollution; how are these banned turns a solution? Notwithstanding the fact that there are no advance warning signs up on Lewisham High Street/Rushey Green to advise drivers of the banned turns (with the exception of Wildfell Road). Having spoken to the owner of the car wash on the corner of Rosenthal Road, he has said that the banned left turn is going to impact his business severely as nobody is going to go via Davenport and Laleham just to get their car washed so that will be one local business down the pan. The other thing I witnessed in relation to this 'No Entry' (apart from the increased traffic levels in Davenport road and Farley Road, AGAIN: HOW IS THIS A SOLUTION? Pushing traffic onto other roads serves no useful purpose whatsoever!) was an articulated lorry trying to deliver to the premises at the back of the car wash and had to resort to driving up Davenport, down Laleham and tried to execute an aborted right turn into Rosenthal, in the end he had to go down Laleham, execute a U turn (don't ask me how he managed it but he did) then come back and turn left into Rosenthal, such a large vehicle should NEVER be driving along Davenport, Laleham OR Rosenthal.

Lastly we come to the banned right turn into Wildfell Road, again there was no need for this as everything functioned smoothly. Now, anyone that wants to go to Tesco has to drive all around the Catford Gyrotray (Again increasing pollution and Congestion) then come back on themselves to take a left turn, adding to journey time unnecessarily and elevating pollution levels – WHY??? Who the hell thought that one up? The opening of Dermody Road one way is a step in the right direction (as is Ennersdale) but there is no reason why Dermody cannot be opened both ways with the same restrictions that you plan to put into place at George Lane. At least it would allow the residents of Lee to get to Lewisham Hospital and for Dr's and Carers to make their rounds without having to go via the South Circular or the A21 (Lee High Road). And then we get to this ridiculous additional cycle lane in Molesworth Street that only serves to restrict the emergency services on their blue light runs (also putting lives at risk – I wonder how many people have died because of this and the road closures in general?). We have had a perfectly good and safe, working cycle lane on the footpath for many, many years – it works and it keeps cyclists away from road traffic but no, some genius at TFL thought it would be a good idea to stick another cycle lane in and risk people's lives because the emergency services can no longer get to them because they are stuck in traffic! This whole exercise has been an unmitigated disaster from start to finish and the impact is STILL being felt by all in the borough. It has failed – accept it and start thinking outside of the box and come up with a better solution. As I have said, small measures that are welcome but in all truth they don't go nearly far enough to solve the problems you have created, not just in terms of the traffic management (if you can call it that) but by dividing the community not just physically but by setting neighbour against neighbour, hardly a legacy to be proud of!" (J.D.)

"Hard to say whether the changes make a difference since overall traffic is reduced anyway with the lockdown, certainly as far as our journey to Lewisham hospital down Molesworth St is concerned. Google maps still shows Manor Park is closed although it is now legal to drive down it one way to Lee High Rd. It took weeks before this particular map app on my phone correctly and consistently showed Dermody and Leahurst as closed and I expect it might take equally long before it knows these roads are open one way. And until the phones show the roads as open, I imagine anyone who has been stung by the £3.1M fines will not be keen to experiment. The queue to turn right from Lee High Rd into Burnt Ash by the Lee Sainsbury was certainly still there just now as I walked back from the PO. This queue has been of marvellous size for the past 3 months, certainly during weekend shopping hours, since lots of cars need to turn right and there is no filter/armistice and when (as there almost always is) there is continuous traffic coming from the Eltham direction, only 3 cars per phase succeed to turn right. When the queue is sufficiently long, even traffic wanting to go straight on is blocked because there is only one lane round the final bend approaching the lights". (S.W.)

"Nothing has really changed; the road blocks in my area are still in place and when they reinstall the road block in South Row Blackheath at the junction of Greenwich Borough part of that road, traffic on the heath will be completely deadlocked. You mentioned that the Mayor ducked questions (how unusual).

We in Lewisham have the worst of both worlds - a Conservative government and a cabinet led by clowns and a Lewisham council led by a mayor and 54 labour clowns. GOD HELP US ALL” (G.A.)

“Hi, I think the thing to do along with the letters of complaint is to write to your MP, Mayor, and anybody else involved in this Low Traffic Neighbourhood (LTN) Debacle. To them that along with the LOCKDOWN and Modal Filter Systems that have been put in place which in turn has affected The Economy, Local Businesses and The Welfare and Mental Health of the General Public and equally important the Livelihoods with Huge Loss of Jobs everybody should write to these representatives in Strong But Polite Terms that this NONSENSE MUST STOP AT ONCE by putting it to them that if we all were to withdraw our votes from them at The Next Election then they would Lose Their Jobs and let’s see how they would like that idea. I say this as people who go into Politics do so purely for their own Vanity and would change their mind if enough people were to write to them. But, they must continue to write and make themselves heard. There is no need to be abusive just a Short Sharp paragraph telling them that they must bring an END to all The MADNESS. Everyone should be encouraged to do this as often as possible. These Officials should be given a WARNING about their future backing of these Strangling policies”. (P.B.)

“I wish to raise the following points: In addition to the suffering, difficulties, stress and draw backs due to Covid, the councils road closure scheme is proving to be a nightmare for most of Lewisham residents. Road closures are causing enormous STRESS and Anxiety. [Closures of Manor Lane, Woodyates Road, Cambridge Road, Manor Park, Ennersdale Road, Dermody Road, Leahurst Road mentioned]”. (K.G.)

“As a resident of Blackheath for over 25 years I am writing to lodge my strong objection to this insane road closures scheme. This action by Lewisham Council is a direct affront on vehicle owners and those who wish to have a choice about how they travel. Closing roads like this just moves the problem to other roads and causes more congestion on the main roads, therefore creating more pollution. The fact that the views of local residents are totally ignored and there has been NO public consultation, is wholly undemocratic and unacceptable. Blocking off the roads that were used to dissipate the traffic and forcing all vehicles onto the heavily congested routes is causing many more issues, as traffic no longer flows as queues occur, and journey times increase considerably for everyone. Therefore, the congestion and harmful omissions are increased as the vehicles can no longer escape by using other less congested roads! This whole scheme is utterly horrendous and makes living in the area a nightmare! I lodge this complaint and I expect my views and voice to be heard!” (R.B.)

“I object to the Lewisham road closures for the reasons below: 1) Increased pollution. 2) Delivery drivers are prevented from delivering essential food for housebound people who have physical disabilities or are shielding. 3) Emergency services take longer to reach those who require assistance. 4) My asthma has got worse since the road closures came into effect in June 2020.

5) Journey times are massively increased, creating more anxiety for those already struggling with their mental health at this incredibly difficult time of COVID uncertainty". (T.B.)

"My wife is a school teacher and travels approximately 6 miles to a school in Norwood. It can take in excess of 75 minutes to get home some evenings. She has also just received a £65 fine for going down an incorrect road. If they are doing this to nurses and other key workers this is an absolutely disgrace. Take my wife for example, with all her resources she has even if there was a decent bus route or train link she would be unable to take it. I live just off the A20 and the traffic now queueing every day to the lights at Lee Green is simply hideous. Happy to get involved in any way I can. I am all up for a better air quality in my area but having cars sat idling for hours upon end is not the answer". (C.H.)

"I'm grateful that you guys are out there fighting for drivers' rights. Please keep up your hard work and I will try and do my part as a resident of Lewisham borough. I can see all the problems these silly plant pots they have erected are causing and hated it the first time I came across one. Since then I have come across a few more. As has my friend who unfortunately ended up getting 4 tickets due to these. Some are not blocked off but have warning signs but most people who always use these roads do not notice the cameras. (Convenient for the council). I think the Mayor is possibly trying to force everybody into the new 2021 ULEZ extension zones and trying to save money by setting the ULEZ cameras up on the North and South Circular main roads and not the back ways around there check points. We all know that COVID has nothing to do with this scheme although that's there reason on the plates up on the plant pots. You guys are right. When traffic measures are introduced into residential areas it should be the residents that decide, same as when parking bays were introduced to my road. We the residents were given the decision whether or not we wanted them. That's how a democratic society "used" to work anyway lol". (A.D.)

"I almost lost my wife over the closures. It took me 50 minutes to get her to Lewisham hospital after a heart attack and now she's nervous to be home, as I am, and she had another heart attack a week later - it then took 40 minutes to get her to the hospital. I did tell the councillors in the meeting that would be dangerous but they never listened. It is so dangerous living in Lewisham now. Keep up the good work". (G.K.)

"Please can you send me more information on the road closures that have taken place in my local neighbourhood. These have happened with no consultation under the guise of Coronavirus and have caused nothing but worse traffic jams, more congestion and road journeys that once took 10 mins now take 50 minutes adding more pollution to our local neighbourhood as cars sit in long traffic jams". (E.P.)

"I wanted to voice my disgust at Lewisham's council and what can only be seen as entrapment of motorists for profit purposes. They're terrorising local people and making lives a misery, without taking responsibility for the overall traffic management.

A competent leadership cannot just close roads and fine people without an overall solution which accounts for traffic volumes or make alternate transport arrangements. I have received 2 fines for driving in a minor road which was made into a Bus route – I was not expecting this / it was changed from one day to the next in a way which is malicious and by stealth. I am totally against the new traffic proposals around Lewisham”. (M.B.)

“I am a severely disabled gentleman that's wheelchair-bound and has a host of medical conditions. I was on my way to Lewisham Hospital on 29 September 2020 and I used the route that I have used on several occasions via Manor Park, Lee. I was somewhat surprised to have received a Penalty Charge Notice from Lewisham Parking Services dated 8 October saying that I have passed through a "Bus Gate". I do recall seeing the yellow polystyrene sign with a Bus & Cycle in Blue but to be honest, I not did understand what the sign was saying, it was totally unclear - it was not saying " NO ENTRY" or it was not a bus lane, I recall looking in my mirror and I could see a car slow behind me waiting to pass through like me so I had no option but to continue through as there was no turn off (the PCN clearly shows the vehicle closely behind me, I have attached a copy of the Penalty Charge Notice which supports my claim. I had also no idea on what a "Bus Gate" means (I have never heard that phrase used before. I have heard of Bus Lanes and to be honest you only see it when you are on it and there is no way to turn off it - surely there should be clear signage prior to reaching that point especially if they are imposing penalty charges as motorists. I have since looked online to see whether the sign is in the Highway Code and it is not. I have also discussed it with my local neighbours and they have said that lots of people in the area received warnings when passing through there but I have received a Penalty Charge Notice. Surely this is not right, they need to be consistent or at least put up clear signage for the motorist indicating "No Entry Except Buses and Cycles". On reading your literature on "Latest News on Lewisham Road Closures" it is clear that you have been inundated with lots of other motorists contacting yourselves as there facing a similar situation”. (E.M.)

“I'd like to object to the road closures. It's comic how little thought has gone into it. Traffic light sequencing hasn't changed and at the same time lanes shut down to one lane to allow for designated cycle routes that no one is using because they are all working from home. This means that at some pinch points people turning across traffic are causing huge delays (no fault of their own) for those that are carrying straight on. For every traffic light phase only a couple of cars are managing to get through. Unbelievable but predictable lack of foresight from the council. While they 'trial' road closures we all suffer and it must be misery for those who live near these newly created pinch points”. (S.H.)

“I totally object to the Council's disrespect of our views - no consultation. Another thing, parking permit extortionate prices!! We put the leader in we should remove the leader”. (B.B.)

"I suspect the proposed changes to the LTN will not make a sufficient difference. In the olden days, traffic could come from Ladywell along Hither Green lane and down Ennersdale and out to Burnt Ash and then get to the S Circular or Eltham Rd avoiding the traffic lights at either end of Burnt Ash. I suspect the queue will move from Hither Green Lane to either end of Burnt Ash (which is already choked with traffic which was formerly able to go down Manor Lane) but time will tell. We live inside the LTN on a road which will now receive more traffic under the new plan. What is not clear to us is how many of our neighbours in the nearby streets are for or against, it probably depends quite a lot on how "active" they are and therefore how much they are out and about and also and unfortunately how quickly white van man was in the habit of driving down their roads in the late evening. And maybe the forthcoming half-baked compromise will change some minds. I provided the councillors with 3 questions which were duly answered in writing the day before in a mechanical and repetitive way by Councillor McGeevor. As you say, the councillors' minds are already made up. From the beginning, I have believed that the only way the scheme would be stopped is if the consequences for the main roads and surrounding areas were horrendous, as has happened, or if the councillors and their best friends lives and businesses were negatively impacted". (S.W.)

"I joined the online meeting with Mayor Egan yesterday and had tabled a question 2 days prior, and mine did not get mentioned either. I had asked that in the light of recent changes they had announced with regards to the camera placings so as not to fine residents, would they consider overturning those who had received fines, as these measures should have been in place when the cameras were installed in the first instance. I thought it was a valid question considering the amount of fines stands at £3.1m on just those streets alone but obviously the questions were cherry picked! It was also obvious that they have no intention to remove the scheme. I fail to understand how the grants were used to install an oven ready LTN that has nothing to do with Covid and has allowed the Council to railroad it through with impunity, and have twice written to Grant Shapps outlining the fact that this scheme has caused untold misery to everyone on the outside of it, massive traffic increase on surrounding roads and only helps all but a minority of residents within the borough. I have asked him to withhold any further funding to the Council because of the problems thus far. And now on top of this the fines issued because of ambiguous signage. It is true, they are just not listening. I was mystified by their statement regarding the Air Quality and Traffic counters, as I have not seen one counter on any of the main roads where the traffic is, only on the closed roads which of course is going to prove their theory that traffic has reduced. I did see someone changing what looked like a phial high up on a lamp post last month, but the following day the box was gone. So if they were doing an Air Quality survey it was not for very long. It will be interesting to see how many residents receive a letter from the mail out in December and we need to keep a check on that, as we don't want Royal Mail being blamed again for not delivering to the residents therefore it not being a conclusive study like the original one. Do you know of any measures the residents can take to help their appeals against the fines as there is a lot who have received multiples and one poor person has got over £1000 which is awful for them. Thank you again for taking up these issues. It is much appreciated". (G.W.)

“Thank you so much for this information. With all the money they have squeezed out of the public snidely perhaps they can spend it on free meals for children in the Lewisham Borough! One thing to bear in mind is that local elections come up next year I think. I know who I won't be voting for”. (A.S.)

“I'm not happy with the roads closed and I have to pay a ticket in one day without notice. I have lived in the area for 25 years and for the 10 min driving I need to drive for 40 min. I'm not happy at all. Thanks”. (A.G.)

“I'm 79 years old and These road closures have made my life hell. We was never made aware of the road closures and I feel that it is totally unacceptable for them to have been put in these places without being informed about them. Due to these being put in place the pollution in this area has increased as people are having to drive 4-5 miles more on each journey. I strongly object to these and hope they are moved ASAP”. (V.R.)

“I vehemently oppose these closures and they have already cost me huge amounts of time and cause huge inconveniences to myself and all other drivers who want or need to make simple, quick journeys. Please let me know what I can do to help this cause!”. (A.G.)

“Well, where do I start? I thought at one stage of last night's online meeting that I was living in Soviet Russia or North Korea as the only opinion being put forward was that of those who are in favour of this LTN scheme, any dissidents were swiftly ignored. The only questions that were answered were obviously pre-prepared as not one of the many questions/statements in the Questions column were addressed and in fact over 90% (by my count) of those statements were against the LTN. It was stated that this LTN was not about revenue generation. I (and many others) would beg to differ. Having raked in £3 million pounds in fines in just a few months I would suggest that it IS everything to do with revenue generation and is in fact being used as a tool by Lewisham Council to replenish their depleted funds! No mention was made about the crisis these road closures are causing for the emergency services, 2 weeks ago at the protest against these closures in Lewisham I counted 5 ambulances in the space of an hour that were stuck in Molesworth Street while on a blue light run, resulting in vital time lost getting to a casualty. Have these delays caused deaths? I don't know but from what I was told yesterday morning they already have, if they haven't then they soon will do. The question I would ask is why do we need a second cycle lane in Molesworth Street when we have had a perfectly good lane that separates cyclist from road traffic for over 15 years? Now we have an additional lane thrown into the mix which has reduced traffic to one lane and given the emergency services no way of getting through! Already the police are being forced to use Lewisham High Street for blue light runs which ultimately WILL result in a serious injury or death as the whole area is heavy with pedestrians, that will be on your heads! Added to that we now have No Entry signs posted at some of the side roads leading off Rushey Green which means that anyone living in those streets now has a circuitous route to get home (up George Lane, across the top and then back down again), how is that solving the pollution issue? It doesn't!

We also have lost a lane outside what was Ladywell Baths (now a pop-up village) because we have a cycle lane where the bus lane was and a bus lane / island which means that lane 2 which used to be used for traffic heading to Catford is no longer there, it's only for buses, so if you have 3 cars or more wanting to turn right into Ladywell Road, nothing is going to get past to get to Catford until that traffic has cleared, resulting in traffic backed up all the way along the other carriageway in Molesworth street. Opening up only 1 lane of Ennersdale and 1 lane of Manor Park – what use does that serve? Yes, you can get to Lee Green but you still have a tortuous journey getting back, and what about the closure in Dermody Road, why hasn't that been lifted? It was never a problem before so why is it now? And then of course we get to George Lane, again, why was this closure put in place – oh yes, the great lie – COVID 19 – these closures have absolutely NOTHING to do with social distancing and (as we now know) everything to do with revenue generation. In the case of George Lane, all you have done is force traffic onto narrower roads and in doing so have put lives at risk. Last night's meeting was a farce, a political statement with all concerned not interested in opposing points of view and as for the TFL representative, why was he even there? Oh of course, this is all being driven by TFL isn't it, well TFL should mind their own business, they have already messed up Rushey Green and Molesworth Street without getting involved in screwing up the rest of the borough as well. This has had a major impact on the emergency services, Doctors who are struggling to get to patients, Midwives, District Nurses and carers who are all struggling to get to patients, delivery drivers, trades people, the elderly and disabled who may have no choice but to drive and are now facing extended journey times to hospital appointments, even those who are using public transport are facing longer journey times and missed appointments because of the congestion this LTN is causing. And all we got from all of the people present at last night's meeting was the 'party political line, the same old rhetoric about cycling and walking when only the most hardened cyclists will be out in the coming months as we face the usual rain/cold and possibly snow that the Winter usually brings. As a last point I would add that I, to my everlasting shame, voted Labour at the last local elections but I will not make the same mistake again and the general feeling in the comments last night was that Labour are going to lose an awful lot of votes come the next election and with the Liberal Democrats canvassing the fact that they are also NOT in favour of the LTN in its current form we might just find a Lib Dem Mayor and councillors at the Town Hall. That would certainly be a first for Lewisham and I would hope that this will be the case as the arrogance of the incumbent Mayor and Councillors who refuse to accept or consider anybody else's views other than their own defies belief but then when you are pulling £3 million pounds in revenue out of drivers pockets its hardly surprising is it? P.S. The protests outside Lewisham Library will still be taking place on Saturday at 1pm, perhaps the Mayor or one of the Councillors would be brave enough to put in an appearance and explain themselves... No? I thought not". (J.D.)

"I am a labour voter and I am disillusioned with the mayor and council members. I think they've put profit before the residents of Lewisham. This goes against the party ethos, but because they know this is a labour borough they are complacent that they can get away with it and still be re-elected.

I actually think we should lobby against them via the Labour Party. I think if they had high levels of people complaining they would think again. What's really frustrating is that the demographics of the borough clearly shows that the majority of residents come from low income homes and the average readability is about 10 years old, therefore they would not know or have the confidence to complain. Thank you for campaigning on their behalf too!" (A.M.)

"Thank you so much for applying pressure to the idiots at Lewisham council. As a driving instructor locally I will continue to drive on Lewisham to make the traffic heavier. They need to see the real effects. I also want to know why Lewisham vehicles are able to use active bus lanes. They don't feel the effects of the excessive "at all times" bus lanes...really unnecessary and buses need to be made aware (cars too) outside the police station) turning right from the middle lane (clearly only left turn) there will be a serious accident there. How bad is this for the economy as I don't visit the shops by Hither Green station anymore, or the lovely cafe on Manor Lane. You often see the police sitting there having meals and sitting around". (L.B.)

"I agree with the sentiment that this is going to be a permanent fixture but also the point that the council have found a scheme to increase their revenue. My experience with talking to councillors is exactly the same as you are getting. I speak with others from different places and the response is the same. We have in Lewisham councillors who have been sitting on these committees for over twenty years. Some of the answers I got back when challenging them beggared belief as if they were an elite club from the same political party. This is also prevalent in other areas I have contact with. If they as they say are concerned with cutting down pollution and improving the health of everyone. The road blocks on Dacres road- Bishopsthorpe road Sydenham has diverted traffic so that it drives past Forest hill boys school how is that protecting the most vulnerable in our community. I think come the local elections in May we need a new group of people in the council who will rule proportionately." (F.S.)

"Thank you for the update regarding road closures. I have been blocked with Road closures and have no clear route therefore I have no choice but to go through a camera every day. I have received 5 penalty charges yesterday and I will not pay them as I am within my right. We need more coverage and protests on the routes that have been closed. Life has already become difficult due to Coronavirus and now we have to deal with these road closures and fines. I have no money to pay these fines as I have already suffered financial loss due to the Pandemic". (R.S.)

"You are completely right it was difficult to log on to the meeting last night. Questions submitted to the meeting prior were unanswered, also those submitted during the meeting. I am not sure why this was an option? The meeting was not interactive the Mayor and his team hide behind social media and just spoke at their audience. They did not give an opportunity for anyone to speak as I feel they are fully aware 99% of residents are not supportive of the scheme. By the way they have re-implemented road closures on Mount Pleasant Road yesterday! I feel they have no intention of removing these closures so we need to keep the pressure up. I found the meeting extremely frustrating". (C.L.)

"Firstly thank you for the work you are doing so far to help the residents of Lewisham. This evening's meeting - scripted answers, cherry picked questions and telling us things we already know, a waste of the hour and half. They are not listening to the residents, very sad: Why is Dallinger, Home-Lacy and Upwood road still closed - this was never a cut through. TFL - spokesman - 4 extra minutes on bus routes think he said on the 202. He failed to mention the bus route 261 delay time! We submitted a question prior to the live session when we signed up and our question was not read out or answered?!" (D.W.)

"I am emailing to strongly object to the road closures in Lewisham. I am a key worker, a teacher and my journey, that once took 15-20 minutes, is now taking up to 1 hour in heavy traffic. Please let me know how I can support this opposition and help get them stopped". (A.M.)

"I'm concerned that the roads closed for covid 19 should be open. It's causing mayhem on our local roads. More traffic, more pollution. It doesn't make sense. I object to this ....". (L.F.)

"We are fed up with the changes to the road closures brought in by Lewisham. They have not taken into account that many people need a car to get around be they disabled or just old! Recently it took 2hrs 20 mins to get from Bellingham Bus Garage to Lee Green simply because we could not know which of the side roads were closed that we would normally use to get home. My husband is registered disabled and has many appointments at Lewisham Hospital. We now have to allow an hour to get there when previously it would take 15-20 minutes maximum. Coming back can be worse! Often we are stuck in immovable traffic in Molesworth Street waiting to turn right in order to get to where we live. We are fighting with queues of buses, lorries and other car users! No one obviously took into account the fact that Lewisham is still building on the site near the station, and at time there are queues of lorries either waiting to get onto the site, or to get out on the road. We counted 12 one morning in a line trying to do U turns to get onto the site! Give us back our roads - the people on the main roads should not have to suffer the level of pollution that they are currently enduring because of these restrictions". (P.V.)

"Thank you for your support in this. I find myself feeling very depressed about the whole issue as are lots of my friends and neighbours. I think everyone should stop paying their Council Tax! probably the only thing that would make those councillors listen!" (J.S.)

"Road closures are absolutely meaningless and has caused travelling to and from work a nightmare adding an extra hour for my journey to work and then same coming home. Then they put in more bus and bike lanes making only one lane for cars. It's ridiculous. I saw an ambulance trying to get through the traffic behind Lewisham shopping centre but they had to just sit in the traffic". (D.A.)

"A short explanation as to why I am objecting - I am a teacher at St Margarets Lee CofE school and my journey time has gone from 20/30 mins (even then traffic was bad) to very recently 1 hour and 25 mins. This is ridiculous, I'm using more petrol meaning pollution is going up not down.

All the traffic is being forced onto the A20 and lee high road which our school practically backs onto, our children are therefore breathing in more toxic air!". (C.S.)

"I wish to add my name to this ridiculous and unnecessary road closures that are already causing severe congestion on Brownhill Rd, and Catford ring road system. Absolutely BS".T.H.)

"Hi there, thanks for your flier that has just dropped through my door. I agree totally that this road closure madness needs to be stopped. I would like to add a couple of points that you may want to add to your list of detrimental side effects. Firstly the local traders are suffering from a massive drop in passing trade as if COVID-19 hasn't done enough damage. Secondly house prices will start to fall in the closed areas. Who wants to live in an area you can't get in and out of? I hope my points are helpful and look forward to receiving your information on opposing these insane road closures". (P.T.)

"Please could you send me more information on how to object to these road closures. They are having a bad impact on my journeys on school runs and other journeys as I live in lee green/Lewisham and my children attend school in Catford. The journey used to take me 15 minutes, now it takes a minimum 40 minutes. It took me 1 hour 45 minutes one Friday evening. I have even tried getting the bus which puts my family at risk of catching coronavirus and the travel times was pretty much the same. I have seen a lot of emergency services be held up in the traffic". (K.P.)

"Not only are they pushing traffic from local roads onto the main roads. They are also pushing people who do not have a driveway onto other roads in order to park creating more problems with finding a space. I live on Brownhill road in a flat with businesses below me so have no parking space. I have to find a space to park around the back streets. With the paid for private spaces laying empty all the parking moved further outside the shopping centre. I live right on the borderline of paid and free parking and it's a nightmare as it is!". (D.E.)

"We wish to object to Lewisham Council's proposals to close local roads. This has resulted in: Longer journeys; Extra traffic on already congested main roads; Further increases in air pollution from idling engines; Confusing signage resulting in many local residents receiving fines. There has been no proper consultation and whilst we are in favour of walking or cycling where feasible, for many people this is just not practical e.g. for the elderly, those with heavy shopping, health visitors and those with Blue Badges". (V.S.)

"Lewisham council: Stop the road closures. You are just making common people's life hell with this closure. Our government is useless. They should have closed the airport but they haven't. We don't know what you achieve by closing these roads – it's just a pointless task. So stop using COVID-19 reasoning". (P.G.)

"Since all the road closures and ridiculous bus gate in Manor Park driving in Lewisham is always a pain and never a pleasure. Journey times take at least 4 times longer". (B.L.)

“Thanks for putting the leaflet about the Lewisham road closures through our front door. We have been affected by the closure of Manor Park, as we can no longer drive via Manor Park or Manor Lane to drop & collect our children at Hither Green station for their journey to school. The timings no longer work, so they will now have to take the longer journey of going in to London Bridge from Blackheath & then out again. My husband is a hospital doctor and is finding his journey in to work at Kings has become significantly longer due to the increased traffic on the main roads due to the road closures - and at the moment traffic is still less than it would normally be as many people have not fully returned to work due to the lockdown. To add insult to injury, Lewisham Council did not see fit to adequately consult members of the public who would be affected by the road closures. The road markings were poor (frankly I've never heard of a bus gate before) and we assumed for weeks that the closure was only one way, so we have now had to pay £260 in penalty charge notices. They will have been aware that people were beginning to go back to work post-lockdown and that children were going back to school in September and Lewisham residents should have received a map showing upcoming proposed road changes over the summer so that we had time to respond. Thanks for your efforts in protesting against these inconsiderate & poorly planned changes”. (B.H.)

“We have lived in the borough for 44 years and consider Lewisham’s latest plans for road closures most ill-advised. We object strongly to the road closures. They result in longer journeys times, more congestion and more pollution. This is extremely inconvenient for the individual and most deleterious for the community” (A.S.)

“I'm writing with regards to the local Lewisham road restrictions. I am hugely supportive of encouraging people to get out of their cars, however these restrictions are causing people to make huge detours on longer journeys that seem to be adding to traffic elsewhere. Also, the signage for drivers is completely inadequate. I was issued with a fine for driving onto a street that was not marked as no entry for cars, where numerous others have been targeted. In fact, locals have put up homemade signs to warn others that they will be targeted. The lack of clear signage makes these fines highly unethical and legally questionable. I trust you will convey this information to the relevant bodies”. (P.T.)

“This goes against all they say they are trying to do, i.e. decrease pollution. In fact it has increased it with all the congestion as all the traffic is on the same roads no matter where they want to go and increasing journey times as we are all such in heavy traffic now”. (P.W.)

“I don't actually drive as such but I did get a bus from Stainton Road on 10/10/20, at the junction with the South Circular in Catford, in the morning and the bus got to Lee Green at WALKING PACE. It's bad enough normally on the South Circular, let alone with Manor Lane and other minor roads being curtailed with the closures. It's no good trying to improve air quality if you just shift the problem further down to another part of the borough”. (A.S.)

“Dear Ms Holland, I wish to express my deep concerns and total objection to the LTN measures. The changes have not improved road safety, cut traffic congestion or the number of vehicles using the road network.

Quite the opposite has happened resulting in increased congestion, increased emissions as traffic sits for long periods, and reduced safety including impeding the free movement of key vehicles such as ambulances. As a pensioner who likes to walk whenever I can rather than use public transport, I find the increased traffic congestion resulting from these measures very disturbing and am worried about the impact on my health and that of my young grandchildren as additional fumes are produced by congested traffic. I also have to rely on using my car for shopping as I have problems with my hips, knees and pelvis. The road closures have made my journeys longer in distance and much slower due to the fact I now find myself in heavily congested traffic. This was not the case before the new measures were introduced. Furthermore, it adds insult to injury that you have labelled these measures as being prompted to deal with Covid 19, an assertion which is totally absurd. Covid has also been used as an excuse to ride roughshod over the requirement to consult fully with residents before introducing these high impact, adverse measures. This is shameful and opportunistic and the very last approach the Council should be adopting at a time when residents are having to come to grips with the massive impact and disruption the Covid outbreak has placed on all of us. I note you have given your full support to these measures and appear to treat objectors with disdain. As a councillor representing the people of Lewisham you should give full and careful consideration to the thousands of objections you and other councillors have received and show your electorate that you respect them even if you disagree with their views. I very hope you will change your approach, give full consideration to the objectors and act appropriate to your office as a local councillor". (C.R.)

"Hi, it's been a nightmare, I've had 3 tickets, I'm a frontline worker and have had to work all through. I have lived in Lewisham for 40 years and it's changed to the worst it's ever been. It's just a money maker. I want to protest. They didn't even inform local council tax paying residents." (D.C.)

"I have been living in the Borough of Lewisham since 1972 as resident, I pay my council tax and my parking permit just been increased to £170.00 and it cost me £570.00 to drive on these roads Lewisham is closing without any consultation with the resident. This should not have happened. I strongly object. I also do voluntary driving for VSL in Lewisham taking the elderly to various day centres and delivery of food to their homes and with these road closings making it impossible to get to our client. I ask Lewisham to stop this NOW". (D.M.)

"Can someone exercise some sanity. The traffic in areas that have been the subject of zero consultation and of ill thought out road closures have diverted traffic from one location, only to form a Car Park in another location. What consideration has been given to access for Emergency Services????????? I now get up at 4.30am to get to work to remain sane. Driving home has become Hellacious. I have noted the most appalling level of driving by people that have tipped over into anger and frustration. With London Bridge, Vauxhall Bridge, Hammersmith Bridge closed and a problem the other day with Wandsworth Bridge, the embankment was at a standstill. I left Chelsea at 2.30pm and arrived home just before 6pm. INSANE! London is a working city.

It is not Amsterdam or any other fanciful location where bicycles form a majority transport option. For example, I work in property renovation and need to be versatile during the day with visits to timber yard/builders merchants/ stone yard etc. Simply not feasible to do my job by public transport or bicycle. I will also add, I was mugged at Green Park underground by 4 men and suffer anxiety in crowds. Public transport is NOT an option for me. Democracy/Freedom of Choice.....??????” (G.M.)

“I object to the road closures in the Lewisham area. It is creating appalling congestion on the main roads”. (S.G.)

“I definitely oppose road closures in Manor Park, Greenwich, all over the borough. They have occurred without any proper public consultation in a non-democratic way. It is increasing pollution by creating traffic congestion which goes against climate change and it removes the choice of residents on how they travel by car. Many of us cannot walk huge, hilly distances nor cycle. It is a ridiculous idea and should be scrapped. We should have a choice in how we travel, whether residents or visitors”. (J.H.)

“I object to the road closures for a number of reasons: 1. The closures assume that the people usually driving can walk or cycle which many older people can't. 2. The added emissions on the main roads caused by the traffic jams affects the people living and working on the main road and pedestrians who need to use these roads. 3. It affects the storekeepers who rely on local traffic for their livelihood especially the industrial estate in the area. 4. It increases driving time therefore increasing the emissions. 5. And I object to the council blaming COVID which I consider to be a red herring”. (M.A.)

“1) The notion that these ridiculous closures have anything to do with COVID19 as the signs on their barricades claim is simply a lie - in no way do they aid social distancing and if anything the safest place to be with a virus on the loose is in your own car. It's simply a disingenuous, opportunistic and underhand way of using so-called emergency powers to introduce an ill thought-out and undemocratic charade they know will be deeply unpopular because it appears perfectly designed to make challenging times even more difficult; 2) Dressing the closures up as a green measure by blocking roads with pretty flowers in a planter is also a nonsense - I don't use my car a lot except for essential trips to the supermarket and, in the current pandemic, delivering prescriptions for my local pharmacy, and there is no doubt that my journey times have increased significantly. One recent outing took me almost an hour to travel little more than a mile around Blackheath, with most of that time spent sitting with engine running in stationary traffic that had been funnelled onto the major trunk routes because nobody had any alternative. Anyone sitting behind a desk dreaming up ways to cut pollution couldn't have got it more wrong; 3) Irrespective of whether the measures are good or bad, popular or unpopular, successful or otherwise, the total lack of transparency and consultation with which they've been introduced is unacceptable but pretty much what we've come to expect in post-Brexit, de-regulated Britain”. (M.C.)

“Please send me information as how to object to the closing of roads in the Lewisham area. This will only add to the severe congestion throughout the area and diversions which cause utter chaos for visitors and residents alike. NO ENTRY means nothing as to where do I go now? Alternative routes are not available so you end up going round and round looking for a pedestrian who MAY be able to help. I have seen the chaos caused in the Manor Park area and the time which is added on to a journey. Consultation was minimal and something MUST be done to restore sense to the planning of the area. Is it possible to obtain the complete picture of the proposed closures so we can fully appreciate what they are trying to do and what sort of helpful suggestions we can make to alleviate the inevitable chaos”. (T.L.)

“I am a Lewisham resident. I think Lewisham council is putting residents in danger by these closures. The amount of pollution that is caused due to the increasing traffic (cars standing still engine running) is alarming. Mini cabs don't accept jobs from Heather Green area anymore because of this, and businesses are shutting down. We should not accept this”. (A.J.)

“I am writing to raise my voice as I do object to the road closures in the whole borough. It's really annoying and affecting me financially and more time-wasting by being stuck in traffic”. (A.E.)

“We would be grateful if you can send us more information about how to object to the road closures in Lewisham. While we support some of the smaller road closures on side streets, we do not agree with the closures that affect access routes to Lewisham hospital - alternative routes add a significant amount of time to journeys and are also prohibitive for accessing local amenities such as the Horniman Museum and Beckenham Place Park”. (S.H.)

“I totally back the campaign to stop the road closures. It's a nightmare to drive around the streets of Lewisham, Blackheath and Greenwich. I inadvertently drove through a bus and cycle lane recently, in fact did it twice over a couple of evenings. The camera and restrictions had only been in place a few days and as I'd been driving up the street almost every day for the last two years I hadn't noticed. My fault I know but it's another aspect of the money grabbing that's going on at the moment i.e. £130 for two penalties”. (D.R.)

“I object to the road closures and reduction in lanes in Lewisham. These were not advertised, there was no discussion with the local community, and have significantly increased traffic jams and hurt local businesses. It is now not possible for me to get to the Chiltonian Industrial Estate, Manor Ln, Lee, London SE12, so I use other suppliers (not local ones) due to all the road closures and restrictions around Manor Lane. The lane closures on Molesworth street are ridiculous! It has significantly increased traffic on an already congested road. Increasing the bus lane on the A21 (Lewisham High St) at the junction to the B236 (Ladywell Road) to 2 lanes serves no purpose except to increase traffic. The traffic around Molesworth St, Rennell St and Lewisham High St is appalling. I think all building development around there should stop immediately. The pavements should be given back for use so social distancing can be done and save lives. The re-construction of the roundabout should be simulated, and if improves traffic flow should be re-implemented.

Lewisham High St by the Police station should be put back to 2 lanes. Perhaps if local authorities had to pay for increased traffic jams and pollution caused by their 'traffic calming' measures this could instil a rational approach to traffic planning rather than a political one?" (D.I.)

"I have lived in Lewisham since 1985 and have never seen so much traffic on the roads of Lewisham as I have in the last couple of weeks. I am now in my late 60's and have mobility and mental health issues. I am retired and a law-abiding person. I do have a smallish car which is 1.1 so not a gas guzzling, air polluting vehicle. I don't use it every day and I try and do 2 or more things when i use it. For example, yesterday I went to do exercise (low impact aerobics and Pilates) and afterwards went to a supermarket to do my shopping. Today, Tuesday, I'm driving to my friend in Lee and then we're going to seated Yoga. Afterwards, I'll go to the library. Before the Covid pandemic I used public transport widely but I haven't used any since March 2020. I haven't even visited Lewisham since March 2020 and I live in Catford! After lockdown I went to visit a friend who had been shielding and got a parking ticket for cutting through back streets to get to her. I didn't want to add to the pollution in Lewisham town centre so cut through to Lee High Road something I've been doing for ages but no warning signs re cameras. Of course I paid but do resent it! I also want to make the point that the population in this country is aging! So lots of people will be needing to use their cars to get round doing everyday things and socializing, something which is vital for our ongoing mental health!" (J.J.)

"I have posted a comment on their web site objecting to the road changes on the basis that: 1) the road closures will undoubtedly cause deaths as a result of ambulances not reaching the nearby hospital quickly enough; 2) I believe Councillors should be held responsible and be personally liable to compensate relatives for this; 3) the restrictions will be economically damaging to the area and adversely affect the high street commerce; 4) congestion will increase and along with it pollution. car trips will be longer and slower resulting in more cars being on the road; 5) Financial hardship will result from loss of jobs as some people will no longer be able to travel to work because the journey times will simply be too long (and by the way - this is not a farfetched exaggeration, but reality); 6) There will be increased 'social contact' and lack of social distancing as more people use public transport (it is not possible or in some cases practical for everyone to cycle or walk to work); 7) As a result of effectively denying access to Heather Green railway station some people will go from a different station and change at Lewisham or London Bridge with considerably increased social contact at the interchanges – resulting in greatly increased risk of spreading the virus; 8) Roads previously quiet will be filled with traffic diverting around the 'Low Traffic Zones' - affecting property values and quality of life; 9) There is likely to be a drift of more affluent people to the countryside as remote working becomes more accepted thereby affecting the overall quality of life in the centre (as the centre becomes poorer)". (P.T.)

"This is what I have sent to Sophie Davis, Octavia Holland, James Rathbone, Jim Mallory, Damien Egan, Ellie Reeves: Dear Sophie Davies, Thank you for your "Dear Neighbour" flyer. First of all, you are not our neighbour and you are not Dear to me but you are a menace to all Lewisham community.

You have undemocratically and sneakily imposed all these plant pot road closures on residents who didn't want them. It causes huge traffic jams, not just in the rush hours, but all day long! This creates more Asthma and environmental issues than before. You and your colleague's have no idea of the impact that these road closing schemes have made as you sit in your office or work for home without consulting all residents impacted, especially elderly and disabled. All the emergency services such as police, ambulances and the fire brigades have been affected by your Plant Pot road closures. Even up to date Sat Nav Systems do not recognise them sending bewildered delivery drivers and emergency services to Plant pot areas causing more chaos when they are trapped with no way out. I hope that someone sues you and the council for your ill thought decisions. You should pay for all this waste of Taxpayers money. It has also affected service providers in general maintenance work such as Transco network south east (gas), telecom provider and Thames Water. The other main group of people who are affected by all these road closures are all these disabled children that have Lewisham transport to take them to school and who are now late going school and coming home, and that also includes the minicab firms that also provide those services. As more and more people, especially vulnerable people, have home delivery services now such as (supermarkets) Amazon, Ebay etc, are all forced down the main road just add to a more busy main roads and empty back street. Having lived in Forest Hill for over 25 years I have seen all of Lewisham high street shops closing down due to your war on vehicles, Lewisham council will not be happy until Lewisham becomes a ghost town. I have noticed that all of the Bus lanes in Lewisham have changed from where you can drive down them at a certain time or park in the bus lane for loading or disabled parking have now all gone, another nail in the coffin of our high street. How are these shops meant to get their supplies? So I do not want you and your no brain mob to change Woodcombe crescent and Ewelme road. We love our crescent the way it is. NO ROAD CLOSURES, ONE WAYS AND PARKING PERMITS, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. We have seen the CHAOS in Silverdale Road and Dermody road and know many of the upset residents in Lee. This is a complete waste of Taxpayers money, and you should all be ashamed of the way these road closures have been handled" (C.S.)

"I got your email recently and would like to object to the Lewisham Road closures. I live in Catford and can safely say this has added at least 20-30 minutes to most car journeys in an out of the borough". (A.F.)

"I have mobility problems due to a road accident and so my friend brings supplies once a week to me. She has great difficulty getting through due to the unnecessary closures". (N.F.)

"I'm emailing as I've just read the pamphlet that was posted through my door about opposing Lewisham Closing Roads that have been quietly instated with the excuse of Covid-19 without any consultation. Only a few weeks ago I was driving my car up my road (Felday Road SE13 7HQ) to go onto Rushey Green and travel to Lewisham when I noticed two bollards had been erected to stop cars turning into the road!

There was no consultation nor a sign informing drivers this road was now exit alone which is very dangerous, especially at night time when drivers would have only seen the bollards at the last minute after turning into the road. No doubt this was done to help cyclists when the road is already a 20mph residential road with humps, and I only see a handful of cyclists using the road! On my road motorists are already struggling to find parking as key workers with free parking and working at Lewisham Hospital take up many of the spaces. The only leaflet received about road closures was covering the Lee area. And again it wasn't a consultation but Lewisham Council telling us what they've implemented. About a week later the bollards disappeared so I can only assume that it was the power of residents complaining but can we be sure the bollards won't reappear again? Not everyone can drive or cycle around the borough, to work or school. I'm sure a high percentage of Lewisham residents work outside of the borough. I do walk around Lewisham when I'm able to as it's good exercise but there are times when I need to drive e.g. when shopping so I don't have to struggle with five heavy bags. The roads in Lewisham have become increasingly congested and short journeys in the daytime are now taking at least twice as long. For example it's taken me over 15 minutes just to drive down the back of Lewisham Shopping centre to get to Lewisham Tesco in the daytime because of the new cycle lane resulting in cars now using one lane of traffic. I still do not understand the logic of this as there is already a cycle path on the pavement for cyclists - are they going to get rid of this? So far on the few journeys I've made at the back of Lewisham Shopping Centre I've seen a maximum of 3 cyclists at one time using the cycle lane, yet us cars are stuck in traffic which is causing more pollution as we sit idle". (N.B.)

"First let me thank you for recognising that the road closure in and around Lee/ Lee Green has caused severe problems and have affected the mental health of many drivers living in and around the borough. The road closures clearly have failed to cut car use and have had many negative consequences. This default has caused terrible and lengthy delays for the Emergency Blue Light Services. Your reports that this has and is working is clearly false. I live in Lee, and have lived here for 40 plus years. I work in Kings College Hospital. When I finish my long shift it normally takes me half an hour to get home, but from since these new measures have been in place it has turned my journey into one and a half hour'; it's ridiculous !!! to say the least. Upon all of these changes you have also taken away the bus lane use for us drivers, at least that was giving us a little leeway to shorten our journey home. THE TRAFFIC AND FUMES HAVE INCREASED TO A HIGH LEVEL, and it's only a matter of time when residents of Lewisham Borough will become ill, breathing in the toxic fumes caused by your new project". (C.E.)

"I attended the protest on Saturday. I had the Manager of Royal Mail approach me, to say get a message to the Mayor that his staff cannot deliver parcels to residents because of the closures. I have a video of a little girl chanting to end the closures because she can't get to school on time. I will not stop until we get rid of this scheme or come with a better solution". (S.C.)

"I received your leaflet regarding Lewisham road closures and I would like to receive further information on how to object. I do not feel drivers were properly informed of these changes.

Also they have closed off certain roads in Lewisham which is resulting in longer queues and traffic on other roads - so what's the point? This hasn't solved pollution etc at all. Lewisham Council is fully taking advantage of drivers - it's unbelievable. For about a month now I have been avoiding going to Lewisham at all with all these new ridiculous changes - it's just not worth it". (S.G.)

"I write to object to the road closures made within the Lewisham Borough. I am a local resident who lives in Sydenham and feel disappointed not to have been consulted about this before it was put into place. I cannot see the purpose of closing these roads, as it has caused so much more congestion. In Sydenham, you have blocked off Bishopsthorpe Road which causes even more congestion on Sydenham Road and Mayow Road. With that, it brings a lot more traffic on Dacres Road past the entrance of Forest Hill School and other surrounding schools. My mother has a disability and cannot cycle and has great difficulty walking for long and I take her to her appointments and shopping etc. These journeys are now taking much longer due to the road closures. With these closures, vehicles are on the road for longer and contributing to more air pollution. These road closures should be removed for the health and safety of local residents". (J.G.)

"I received your flyer yesterday and would like to give my support to this cause as I feel it is an abuse of power. My journey is now delayed by an hour each morning by these road closures, and I have received 2 motor offences for driving down Manor Lane, but I did not realise they had made any changes as they seemed to appear overnight! I am appealing both charges as the Mayor of Lewisham has since admitted that they have been rash in these road closures and are now trying to rectify this (but looking at the amended road plans, I don't think it will help the congestion)." (K.B.)

"It looks as if the new plans may satisfy nobody. Just in our little road we will still have the same problems, we did not have prior to LTN imposition, and will still be driving longer journeys to do short journeys. We still have no direct car access to the rest of the ward, or the borough, ditto other residential roads". (P.R.)

"Thank you for your leaflet re road closures in above areas. I agree that the present situation is intolerable and at the least disruptive and totally without thought or consultation. Only last night while travelling to West Dulwich from Sydenham via Forest Hill. Roads were blocked off no signs displayed until it was too late to turn back the congestion on these side roads was horrendous. A five minute drive took over one hour and a half hours it was only due to the calm attitude and resignation of the participants of what can only be described as a road block that there was not more serious incidents. Had there been a major incident in that area it was beyond belief what the consequences would have been. While sitting in the traffic the petrol fumes were overwhelming - so much for decreasing pollution. It appears to me the general intention by all politicians either national, or local is to just rule by position rather than being servants of the people". (F.S.)

"I need you to reconsider all the road closures that you have put in place using Covid 19 as an excuse. You are making it impossible to travel anywhere without sitting in traffic causing more concentrated air pollution as us drivers are on the road longer.

People already have short fuses because of what going on in the world today, this i feel will push many over the edge and can see something devastating happening. Stop road closures now before it's too late. From a very frustrated driver who has lived in Lewisham for over 40 years and can now only care for my 72 year old father once or twice as it takes too long to get home from his address because of road closures". (D.H.)

"Rather than make changes "after listening to the criticism" I believe Lewisham Council have decided to create an impression that they have caved in. Having primed the local press that the Lee Green LTN would be opened up, and "how disappointed" James Rathbone was about it...but "didn't know what the changes would be", we now find that the changes are minimal and being added to. After the storm of criticism, they have had even Lewisham acknowledge they have to be seen to do something. What they have engineered here is a fake defeat intended to create an impression that there have been big changes. At only one location out of 13 closures are cars now permitted both ways. A further 4 locations will have camera controlled one-way barriers, all blocking east-west travel and all in the far west of Hither Green. All other barriers especially those on the Lee side remain. It's surprising even now the cynicism of Lewisham Council and it's becoming clearer by the day they will not stop and will use any means necessary. I've sent a question for next week's meeting with regard to Upwood Road asking what justification there is for the closing of this road 24-7 when the grounds (Rat run) and safety (Social Distancing) are not supported by the facts. Living on Horn Park Lane we see none of the "Benefits". We now have an explosion of street parking which has reduced the road to single file. we have a queue in the morning stretching all the way to Eltham Road. But the queue is short lived and by 9 it's over. The all day street parking is not. Upwood and the surrounding roads, Cambridge and Leyland are quiet all day, evening and weekend. Their own traffic data which they have not published clearly illustrates this" (S.H.)

"Dear Damien Egan, you say in your road closures that Manor Lane will now allow all but HGV's to use same, so how will HGV's deliver to the Chiltonian Industrial Estate? You also say that traffic will be allowed to travel along Manor Park to Lee High Road but not from Lee High Road through to Manor Park, what happens if you live in Manor Park? how do you get to your house or flat? You are not thinking these problems out with a clear head, you also mention a Blue Badge on-line but then nothing more - how does a blue badge help the disabled residents of which my wife is one?" (G.A.)

"The road closures are clearly disastrous for all the reasons stated by anyone who has had to endure them. It is also unwise to open up some roads and others only in one direction, for example Dermody Road has traffic moving steadily in both directions, so making it accessible from one direction is demonstrably absurd!" (D.M.)

## **Comments Received After Initial Road Closures (prior to 17/10/2020 from 01/07/2020)**

“Thanks for info. I am so disappointed about Upwood Road. I am a disabled lady with social carers. They are struggling to get to me on time due to all the closures and due to Horn Park Lane being blocked now by traffic and lorries trying to get from south circular to Eltham Road or back again. I live in Horn Park Close. It’s a nightmare, particular early mornings and rush hour. Now also the bus lane is closed all day and made it even worse. Thanks for all your work”. (A.N.)

“It’s an absolute joke these changes to certain roads in the Hither Green / Lee area. The changes have already been decided and the meeting chaired by Damien Egan and the CEO has been scheduled after the changes have been decided. More permanent changes coming in 2021. We will not accept the changes. As you can see the changes only support the residents on the side of Manor Park. Residents on the side of Lee High Road. No changes at all!” (C.S.)

“My husband is a critical worker for gas in Lewisham for social housing, and finds it's taking ten times as long to get to a tenant to repair their boilers. This is resulting in many appointments not being met due to these road closures. I'm a mobile hairdresser and I can't get to my appointments either so please please keep fighting and objecting. The one in Dacres road leading to Sydenham has also caused me many problems”. (C.S.)

“I would like to support the motion to object to the numerous road closures locally. I have been a victim of an unannounced road closure recently. I have been sent a fine for misuse of Manor Lane apparently, and have contested it. I am still waiting to hear back. Many residents are complaining about these new road closures as there seems to be no logical reason for it. Drivers are forced onto main roads and main roads are tailed back a long way especially where there are lights. Consequently, tempers are fraying and travel times are increasing despite there being fewer cars. At times they put roadwork signs up but there are no road works. The signage is confusing e.g. access only - road closed etc and there is no warning. Sat navs don't recognise them hence my being caught out on Manor lane. Plus 'Bus Gates' seem to be new things and different to bus lanes but I have never been made aware of these. Drivers are driving around lost and potentially like me do not want to go somewhere unfamiliar in fear of unwittingly straying and then being fined for road use. It is majorly inconvenient and it feels like a spurious attempt to make money. I can see no environmental or safety reasons for these lanes”. (N.W.)

“I totally support your position on road closures. One daughter is disabled and has a motability wheelchair vehicle. The other lives on South Row SE 3 one of the roads originally closed and then reopened when LBL realised that it was crazy to close it. Even then a hard fight to get any sense into responsible parties”. (P.C.)

“Please don't block these roads as it is causing chaos in the morning and evening while travelling to work. While we are stuck in traffic how are we saving the environment? We are still burning fuel and causing pollution.

This idea of blocking roads is a complete Fail. Where I used to travel for 45 min to get to work now it's taking over an hour. "NO BLOCK ROADS!". (J.M.)

"I got your leaflet and glad something is being done about all these road closures. I have a disabled 20 year old son. We often used to go to "CONTACT A FAMILY" and the Leemore centre on Bonefield Road and Leemore Road. I'm 69 with a bad knee and COPD. I cannot ride a bike anymore nor walk too far. I was caught out at Dermody Road. This notice terrified me and I have no idea how to get to the centre now. These pots have been placed without consideration or consultation and are causing more pollution. So yes I support you, So does my husband who is a gas engineer for the council but also can't do his work correctly in the borough". (C.S.)

"We have received a PCN and we are also angry about the road closures. This adds more than 30 minutes to any travel! We went through the bus gate in Lewisham 7 times starting on 7 Sept before being made aware of the bus gate. The traffic has been causing higher anxiety and is causing massive pollution. The whole of Burnt Ash Hill is blocked nearly all day and the kids get to school late. You are doing a good deed with your fight!". (W.W.)

"Hi, I agree 100% with what you say. It's an utter disgrace. It took me 1hr 15 mins to get from Honor Oak to Greenwich yesterday (3 and a half miles!) thanks to TFL. It would have been quicker to walk and we would have done had it not been raining for five hours and we had goods on board to be delivered. I will sign the petitions and try to get along to protest meetings. In the meantime I shall pray that I don't require the services of the Ambulance or Fire Brigade. The blockage at Dermody Road is responsible for some of the most significant effects and is causing some of the worst delays in the vicinity of Lewisham Station. Changing the bus lanes on red routes to 24hr isn't helping either". (A.B.)

"I've been ticketed and paid up but as a member of the emergency services I can tell you that all I work with who travel great distances to get to work or the public we meet absolutely hate these measures and support the removal of them, So I have emailed and complained and spread the word, Keep it up, i have found myself in the same spot with residents fighting big companies and its relentless but you can win". (K.R.)

"Many thanks for the very comprehensive email. I am sorry to have only just got into the groove of starting to challenge the closures. I have already responded to the immediate flower box scenarios. I will now write to my local councillor and MP. There is now another semi-closure to prevent access to Lewisham via Manor Park. I have just received a PCN (Penalty Charge Notice) which is for £65 or £130 if not paid within 14 days of the date of the PCN notification. This has turned into a cash cow for Lewisham council as the signage is very ambiguous. I now know of 5 people in a small circle of friends who have received a PCN for this location. I am challenging the notice as the signs are unclear and ambiguous. Please let me know if there is anything else that can be done about the 'flower box' closures. It makes me very annoyed to think about the money that has been wasted on this when it could have been better spent on mending the potholes all over the place. I walk, cycle and drive in my local area.

Local shops that I used to support are now not so regularly used as I am fed up with having to drive there because of 'flower box' closures and traffic jams. I am fortunate in that I am physically able to walk or cycle to local shops but I go less often because of time pressures". (E.K.)

"In Lewisham now the congestion is much worse; so bad the pavements carry more cyclists and motorcyclists than pedestrians and in some cases, cars. Being a pedestrian is a VERY dangerous. My business is almost impossible". (J.W.)

"The situation concerning the traffic chaos in the Burnt Ash Hill, Burnt Ash Road, Baring Road and South Circular junction has become frankly ridiculous. Today was a typical example to drive the return journey 1 mile from Farmcote Road to Handen Road has just taken me an hour at 7.45am. Every motorist is now forced onto either Baring Road or Burnt Ash Hill. The ensuing static traffic pumping out fumes due to the lack of drivable options with road closures, makes a farce of Sadiq Khans attempts to improve the air quality in London. Please advise what I can do to help ensure the loony Lewisham council's road closures are not to become permanent". (I.M.)

"The proposals of closing side roads in the Lewisham area will not work. All you are doing is moving the problem to other side roads and more congestion on main roads causing more pollution (or does it not matter to the council that the odds are poorer people live on the main roads) as cars are stuck in bigger jams plus if these roads are NOT open to the general road uses should my road fund fee and my council taxes be used to fund the upkeep of these roads and road furniture. The local residents who want and benefit from these closures should pay for the upkeep". (A.S.)

"I am a clinician at Lewisham Hospital. I drive in from a Kent village to get to work - using public transport is not an option for me. The road closures throughout the Hither Green/Lee parts of Lewisham are of great inconvenience when trying to get to and from work, adding over an hour and a half travelling time each day. This is leading me to reconsider my position as I am sure is the same with other clinicians with whom I work. The current road closures and any further that are planned are extremely underhand and from what I can gather have not been undertaken with any consultation. Has anyone given any thought to clinical services both within the acute sector within the hospital and also within the community where my colleagues have difficulty accessing patients at home? The number of contacts by community services will drop as travelling times increase putting even further pressure on already overloaded services. Please reconsider the road closures". (S.C.)

"I wish to raise my concerns about road closures in Lewisham which have had a direct impact on my and my colleagues provision of services for the Lewisham and Greenwich NHS trust foot health services team in the last few months. We provide home visits to those who are house bound, including looking after those with serious foot wounds who may require hospital admission. Our visits have been more difficult due to road closures making it more time consuming than usual to get through our caseload.

I understand that some homes in Lewisham have had leaflets to inform them of the planned closures, but there has not been a consultation which I would expect if something like this is happening?”. (A.G.)

“There are several road closures around Lewisham and Lee and it is my understanding that there may be further road closures to come. I am a key worker for the NHS – I commute to Lewisham from Kent every day. The road closures are having a significant impact on my ability to reach work extending the time taken to get to work dramatically. In addition, when undertaking essential home visits to patient’s in the area it is significantly impacting on travel times and the ability to see the number of clients required. I strongly object to the current closures and any possibility of further closures. There has been no consultation and we have had no response from the local council on the matter which is proving very frustrating and disruptive to services locally”. (S.P.)

“I am writing as a resident of Lewisham borough. I was appalled at the number of road closures that have been put in place, without consultation. I have lived in the borough since 1966 and have never felt so incensed. It is difficult to travel across the borough and one has to circumnavigate around Lewisham and Lee. As an 84 year old, I usually use public transport, not during the pandemic, but the impact is also felt in this arena, as all main routes are much more congested. Finally I feel strongly for all community keyworkers; how can they travel efficiently and provide their essential services when they are refused access to vital road links. This has NOT been well thought out, it needs to be abolished”. (S.R.)

“I am emailing to complain about the existing closures and the potential for further closures. I am a Lewisham resident and a cyclist. The closures do not enhance the life of a cyclist at all. When rejoining the main traffic it is more dense and perilous since the closures. The impact on all community services is huge, increasing travelling times to where their patients reside. The NHS has been applauded regarding their commitment during the pandemic, it is ironic that the local council has put barriers in their way, which prevents them treating the most vulnerable housebound patients. I have complained to Lewisham but there has been no response. There was no consultation and I strongly object to the way the closures were managed. This system does not enhance lives”. (J.B.)

“I would like to object to the recent road closures in Lewisham and reported additional closures to come. As a key worker in the NHS, I can advise the closures have had a direct in impact on patients care. My staff when undertaking home visits have to take a considerable amount of equipment with them, so they must use a car for which we have access to pool cars. Since the road closures were implemented and lockdown stopped my team have reported significant increases in travel time between patients. As a result we have had to reduce the number of patients that can be seen in a day by 10% (1 patient per day). This is resulting in increased waiting times for house patients accessing our services. In addition staff are reporting high levels of stress due to being stuck in traffic moving slowly, and concerns over increased pollution from cars being stuck in slowly moving traffic.

Importantly there was and appears to be no future consultation on these changes. As a person who lives and works in Lewisham I find that very disappointing and undemocratic". (C.D.)

"I am emailing to complain about the existing closures and the potential for further closures. I am a Lewisham resident and a domiciliary podiatrist providing wound care across the borough, primarily in the area most prohibited currently - Lee and Lewisham. The impact on all community services is huge, increasing travelling times, as we cannot access the roads where our patients reside. The NHS has been applauded at this difficult time; it is ironic that the local council has put barriers in our way". (S.B.)

I have complained to Lewisham but there has been no response. There was no consultation and I strongly object to the way the closures were managed. This does not enhance anyones life.

"I cannot see how these enforced, pop up road closures have anything to do with Covid-19. It is disingenuous and just serving to make money for the council. It is a downright lie. Pushing cars onto arterial roads, which are also residential, is causing further pollution in concentrated areas for longer due to congestion. I guess if you live on one of those main roads, your life matters less in the eyes of the councillors, probably because they live on the leafy side roads with the road closures perhaps". (D.H.)

"I wish to make a complaint against this idiotic idea and even terrible idea to have let it go ahead". (V.P.)

"I am just writing to add support to the campaign against Lewisham road closures. I live locally and have found journeys that used to take ten minutes almost quadruple in time - having to take long nose to tail diversions around LTNs. The whole affair is an undemocratic mess. It has led to more congestion, pollution and division between the people and should be scrapped immediately. Please let me know if you have any further suggestions on how to make the idiots in charge realize that their nonsense measures are not working". (A.H.)

"I am raising my concern and highlighting my objection to the road closures around Lee SE12. The road closures have only made the main roads more congested and, with more cars 'idling' on the main road, this is actually worse for the environment. A lot of people spend a lot of time on the main roads as pedestrians, as this is where the shops are. So your plan to promote 'healthy neighbourhoods' has actually backfired. Please take this email as a complaint against the road closures". (T.B.)

"Could someone please explain the reasoning behind closing roads in Lewisham and surrounding areas. It is absolutely ridiculous and to use Covid - 19 epidemic as an excuse is just a cop out, this is just the councils way of fleecing the motorist once again. Why do I and other motorists pay Road Tax? Isn't it to give us access to the roads which you are denying us; even the residents in the roads that have been closed are not happy. I am a senior citizen in my late 70s and unfortunately my mobility is restricted, consequently I rely on my car to visit my family, friends, and for shopping; by closing these roads my journey is doubled. Also have you considered

these diversions are contributing to pollution which in case you have forgotten David Attenborough, Princes William and Charles, The Government etc, are urging everyone to reduce including you. So wake up, use some common sense and stop this ludicrous idea". (S.G.)

"I would like to object to the road closures. I work on Lee High Road and to get there what used to be a 20 minutes journey has become 1 hour and 20 because of the traffic this road closure is causing". (O.B.)

"Have just returned from the gathering at Lewisham library ...Lots of vehicles tooting their support! I felt duty bound to go today as one of my neighbours was knocked down on the south circular on 2nd October at the pedestrian lights close to Burnt Ash Hill. I am very sad to say she passed away this morning. I was very concerned to hear that the day of the accident the traffic light sequence had been changed. Subsequently I have heard from other people in the community that the lights barely give people time to cross the road. How many deaths before something happens to convince the council that the road closures are not working? I live in Harland Road (Lee) and our road has now become a cut through road. In the mornings from 7 am there is a constant jam onto Baring Road for up to 3 hours. Things seem to be getting worse! Thank you for all you do towards solving these ongoing problems". (J.S.)

"I object to the road closures in the Lewisham area. Closing some of the roads for no actual reason and without consultation from residents is unacceptable and a disgrace. The closure of certain roads, has created more traffic on the major routes, specifically around the south circular and raised the level of pollution, due to the volume of traffic which has now been created in certain areas. The re-opening of the closed road needs to be reversed, as this has had a huge impact on the environment, the community and residents". (D.V.)

"I am writing to have my objections noted to the many recent road closures that have been put in place in many local residential areas without notice or consultation. Needless to say I am opposed to these closures and would like to make known my objections in the strongest possible manner". (N.F.)

"I am not a car driver personally but I can see that this idea of blocking off roads by using decorative planters is not a good idea. You are forced onto the main roads where you get caught in traffic jams causing congestion and your journey time is considerably increased. I worry for the emergency services who cannot access these blocked roads in a timely manner, therefore people's lives could be at risk". (K.M.)

"I would like to voice my extreme objection to the road closures that have been ongoing in the Lewisham and Sydenham area. These closures have increased traffic in the area that I live and has made journey times in my local area significantly longer than necessary and in some cases gridlock. I strenuously oppose any further road closures and would like the council to reverse their decision and re-open the roads already closed; this is one of the worse decisions they have ever made and it needs to be re-thought and reversed". (K.T.)

"I am writing to object against the recent road closures in Lewisham. I believe that it has caused more congestion which leads to more pollution and adds extra time onto your usual journey time". (A.R.)

"Closure of these roads is ridiculous, high handed, autocratic and undemocratic - madness. If re-routing is required let's have a democratic process. Re-routing all traffic to already congested main roads is pure madness. Get out of your offices and meetings on-line to take a look at the mayhem you have created. In this era of Covid and an uptake of van deliveries it has become impossible for delivery vehicles to navigate the side roads." (D.T.)

"Traffic is now more concentrated in fewer places - pollution must be more concentrated in those places as well. Drivers seem more aggressive and when they find a break in traffic, they drive quickly to take advantage. This doesn't make for safer healthier roads and may be particularly dangerous for children as the weather turns and it gets darker. This needs to be thought through and the consequences (and those who will suffer them) properly considered. Pushing through poorly considered policy while people are focused on a pandemic is not good democracy". (C.H.)

"In response to what is happening around Lewisham and Hither Green areas with LTNs. In my opinion it's just made things worse; more pollution on main roads that already had high pollution; journey times have increased for cars and buses. In this day and age people have the right to decide how they want to travel NOT be told that we should be walking or cycling everywhere. We were told this would be temporary due to COVID. But local authorities have taken advantage in my opinion while lockdown was on to introduce these measures. Its clearly not working; a massive rethink and reopening of roads is needed". (D.L.)

"Every working day I drive my wife, who is unable to cycle, to Hither Green railway station from Blyth Hill. It would not be practical to walk because it would take far too long. From Hither Green she takes the train to Sidcup, where she works. My wife used to take the train from Catford Bridge to Lewisham, change there, and then carry on to Sidcup, however, COVID 19 has made that journey more hazardous and we want to avoid the travel with many more people at a busy interchange. We are both vulnerable people – me especially as I am over 70 and have a heart condition and high blood pressure. There is currently no bus service which would allow travel in reasonable time either to Sidcup or Hither Green and the risk would be much greater. If the trip to Hither Green becomes too slow then our options are: a) Drive all the way to Sidcup; or b) My wife would have to stop working. Clearly this has nothing to do with the virus! The policy of preventing parking at or near stations actually increases car usage because instead of travelling on the train people take the alternative and drive to their destination. Often, public transport is just too slow to allow for many journeys like the one I have just described. Cars are frequently used for economic reasons rather than just laziness or convenience. Stopping car usage will almost certainly damage the local economy as people switch shopping habits away from local shops and the high street. It is not the internet which has killed off the high street, it is local councils. The internet is just the final nail in the coffin. One

reason for council's complacency is the way they get their income which is from rates. The local economy can suffer and this has no bearing on the council's income. Eventually if rents fail then property owners will sell or leave and this will affect pensions because investors rely heavily on the commercial property market. The virus has made this more obvious. Also the councils income will suffer. The same applies to parking fees which inhibit economic activity. The councils do not care that turning cars away affects business, and they have little concept of how commerce really works. Rates should be scrapped. The answer is that councils should receive income from part of the VAT added to sales in their area. In that way they would have a positive reason to welcome cars because cars increase economic activity – like it or not. Every planning model confirms this, and in the USA, cities are planned on the principle that infrastructure, especially roads, are very important to the economy. Why do our planners adopt such appallingly irresponsible attitudes? Lewisham's policy will do untold damage, that is, much more untold damage, and the idiots who endorse that policy should be held accountable for the misery they cause to thousands of people". (P.T.)

"Please accept this email as confirmation that I strongly object to the road closures within the Lewisham borough. I am horrified that there was no consultation, and that these closures have caused more traffic on the roads, and prevented the emergency services to get to the emergencies on time. The traffic queues have doubled adding an extra 45 minutes onto my commute everyday, which I am sure is adding to air pollution". (C.G.)

"I'm disabled and rely heavily on my car, to shop and visit family and friends. Last Sunday, it took me 50 minutes to drive to my friends for lunch. This journey pre Covid closures, took me 20 minutes. So yes, I want to know where and what to do to oppose these closures". (A.H.)

"I have seen the fire department have to reverse as they couldn't open Silverdale Road block. I have pictures. Not only that I have two tickets last week from changes made in COVID and poorly advised. How can they do this in the name of Covid? Disgusting!!!". (C.W.)

"I appreciate you sending this leaflet as I wasn't aware of the majority of these. This is the beginning of a trend likely to make motorists lives a misery. The road network is paid for by motorists taxes, whether it's council tax, fuel duty etc. As a result the council does not have the right to take that from drivers". (A.B.)

"Please stop the closing of essential roads in Lewisham as the obvious congestion is unbelievable. How can ambulances, police etc bypass long queues on some single lane roads which are now congested. It took my family 45 mins to get through Lewisham and the Brownhill Road the other day. It's crazy and I assume Lewisham councillors are not inconvenienced by these closures". (U.K.)

"I am writing to express my feelings about the addition of the road blocks on Silverdale/Bishopsthorpe roads in Sydenham. Since they have been installed we have seen a huge increase in traffic on the High Street, some days the smell of the fumes is intolerable. What I can't understand is why no thought this been put in to

how this affects people living in the surrounding roads of the High Street. Since Venner Road and other roads leading off the High Street have had their entrances closed to traffic, our poor street has become one of the only places left for commuters, shop workers and shoppers to park for free, making it virtually impossible to find anywhere to park on our own road. There is daily road rage because people can't pass each other and a couple of weeks ago there was another serious accident and the ambulance and police had to be called. Our road is now a rat run and it is very unpleasant to live on this street. Adding these new road blocks to Silverdale/Bishopsthorpe has just caused everyone on my street even more hassle than we had before. Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe have some of the widest pavements in Sydenham! Why not block off our tiny paved street? Why have you chosen a large through road that it so helpful to local people when the area is congested. I am totally against keeping these road blocks in place. I really don't know who is responsible for designing the roads and various blocks and street parking but it is absolute chaos! You are welcome to come and spend the morning in my house and listen and see for yourself! Please, please listen to the residents". (S.C.)

"I received your leaflet campaigning against Lewisham Council's dictatorial insistence on closing roads in my local area (Sydenham) under the pretence of 'facilitating Covid-19 social distancing' earlier today. As a passionate (and possibly militant?) motorist, the measures left wing councils, and TfL under the ghastly Sadiq Khan, are taking to make London's drivers an absolute misery are driving me to despair. In particular, the closure of the junction between the main road through Dulwich Village and Calton Avenue/Court Lane is significantly adding to my journey times, and has turned the main thoroughfare through the Village past the shops and cafes a traffic clogged nightmare. If there's anything I can do to help with your campaign around Lewisham, Bromley or Southwark, please let me know! It's only a year until the ULEZ expansion brings a further round of persecution and misery to London's most law-abiding people - obviously the millionaire in his Tesla is laughing, but the poor bloke on minimum wage in his 17 year old Focus is stuffed". Fight the good fight - and very best wishes". (D.P.)

"I object deeply to all the Road closures in the SE areas, as it's congested the main roads, frustrating the drivers, causing chaos and slowing the country's economy. Also its causing countless late appointments and even causing the emergency services to be late, also the refuse lorries." (L.G.)

"I strongly object to the road closures. The build-up of traffic has caused major congestion along Sydenham. We already had one road closed for what was supposed to be a market and now another road off Silverdale and Bishopsthorpe" (J.T.)

"I'm writing to oppose the permanent road closures in Lewisham. I live in Ravensbourne Park Crescent, SE6, and have to use the local roads a lot as I am a volunteer food bank delivery driver – I have been afforded key-worker status. Only yesterday I paid a fine of £65 for using Manor Lane, having not been made aware of the road changes (or possible fines). The traffic flow is a nightmare because of the

road closures and affects the level of pollution near our home, close to Catford. We have two small children and will be forced to move away from the area if this is not resolved". (O.P.)

"Very soon it will be 40 years since we have lived on Manor Lane close to the Industrial Estate "old Chiltonian site". Several household residents on Manor Lane are retired Old Age Pensioners and now in our very old age, we are deprived of our civil rights and wasting our hard-earned money paying for Road Tax Licence and Motor Insurance Policies - by leaving our vehicles parked by the wayside. We ourselves are aged 81 and 89+ years respectively. We are unable to ride bicycles or walk long distances with heavy shopping. By blocking Manor Lane at the crossroads connecting Fernbrook and Southbrook Road, as well as Holme Lacey Road off Manor Lane, we are caged in, as there is no way we can even go to our Doctor for treatment on Handen Road nor can we connect to Lee High Road - our usual route via Manor Park to reach Lewisham Shopping Centre. The Council has given us no option whatsoever, but to take the very long route - almost a mile via Newstead Road on to St Mildred's Road then down Burnt Ash Hill (to visit our son who lives on Southbrook Road - a journey which used to take about 4 minutes by car now takes well over 25 minutes due to traffic jams of 30+ cars, (2 yellow boxes) or to our G.P. on Handen Road, same problem. We would request the Planners to have a re-think for the misery and frustration caused to old pensioners; we invite Planners to sit with their Note-Pads and cameras at the junction of Burnt Ash Hill/St.Mildred's/Westthorne Avenue Road to observe the traffic flow and the excess air pollution caused by traffic jams; it takes over 15 minutes to cover just 50 yards as the Yellow Box and Traffic Lights permits only 2 to 3 vehicles to turn Right or Left, so the queue is horrific. The measures you/Council have introduced to especially close Manor Lane at the crossroads connecting Fernbrook Road/Southbrook Road are unwarranted, thoughtless, bad planning, and serves no useful purpose - a totally expensive disaster. Lastly, it is ludicrous and unbelievable to permit residents of Catford Broadway to go past the cameras on Manor Lane without incurring a Penalty Charge whilst we, residents on-site, get charged, and fined!! Where is the logical reasoning for this injustice? Commonsense is surprisingly getting Uncommon!!!" (P.R.)

"Hi there. I live on Horncastle Road in Lee SE12. We had police surveying the road for speeders. Apparently Horncastle Road has been recognised as a dangerous road. No chance of them catching anyone as our road is gridlocked from 7.30am onwards!! It is a super narrow road and traffic coming both ways as well as the 273 bus!! Absolute madness!!!" (C.L.)

"Hi Roger I just sent this to Sophie McGreevor but I don't think they really care what the normal guy thinks. I will sign the petition also, anything we can do to put pressure on is a good thing: Hi I have worked in Lewisham for 7 years, travel each day from Thamesmead. Since the new road closures in Lee Green area my journey has been a total nightmare, so stressful, I am now currently late for work every morning and takes me nearly 1.5 hours to get home at night, a simple journey from Lewisham Park to Thamesmead is a trip through hell. No traffic police to be seen, everyone jumps the queues, drives down the wrong lane then cuts in at the last minute, drives down the wrong side of road, then cuts in at the lights, its pure chaos on the roads

and stresses me out every night, I hate my journey to and from work and like I say no traffic police in sight, massive queue along Hither Green Lane every night and all the way along the south circular to the Eltham roundabout every single night and every single morning. I am thinking of finding a new job. I am a key worker in a care home, thanks for making my life a nightmare . Am I supposed to take the bus, and increase my risk of getting infected .....good job, great way to thank me for working all the through this pandemic .....” (T.W.)

“Thanks for all that you are doing. I have to say I am now feeling quite desperate as are others in my local area. I live in Holme Lacey toad and feel totally trapped. On the day’s I do need to travel by car, which we have dramatically reduced, we are literally gridlocked in by the lights at either end of Burnt Ash Lane. There’s literally no way out without sitting in up to and beyond 15 minutes of solid traffic. Even if I leave at 7am this is unavoidable. I just don’t know what to do. I’ve recently received a ticket, as have many others, for passing through the width restrictions on Manor Park Road. The signs here are confusing and literally there is no way to access local amenities and my children’s schools etc without a huge diversion unless I pass through here. It is really affecting our everyday lives. We even have friends and families reluctant to visit us due to this nightmare. If they choose to begin fining cars for using the bus lane to go straight ahead at the top of Burnt Ash Lane this will become impossible. The traffic queue turning right into the south circular is impassable. My parents live on Newstead road, 2 streets away from us. But to drive this is again almost impossible at most times of the day. My father is awaiting ankle replacement surgery so walking is painful and not an option. I just have no idea what to do next. We have petitioned, written to Damien Egan and Octavia Holland but we are not listened to at all. I work in a school in Lewisham. Teachers, who live out of the borough and whose only option is to drive due to childcare drop off times, are having a huge increase in their journey times, stress levels and anxiety due to the fear of being late. It just feels hopeless!” (E.T.)

“I am writing this email as a resident of Lee, who has only recently moved to the area (Kimbolton Close). I moved due to the lack of traffic around the area, better living conditions and a more community feel to the area. I am a professional dog trainer and walker and have run a successful business for the last 6 years, covering from Camberwell – Lee. These new road closures have kept me up at night with the stress and anxiety of constantly being late for my clients and it taking me over an hour and a half to get home from East Dulwich. We now have a burst water pipe on the south circular which is right next to our road and it has taken 45 minutes for my boyfriend to just leave the end of our road. I have had to cancel or move my training appointments and deal with some very unhappy clients because I cannot face sitting in traffic like last night where it took me over two and a half hours to get home. I am urging you to reopen these road closures as they are creating so much pollution in the area I live in and increasing the length of time a normal journey should take exponentially. I cannot continue to live here, where I was previously very happy, due to these closures and the affect it is having on my business. Please help.” (A.D.)

"The road closures in the area are fast becoming a nice money making earner for the borough...unfortunately whilst few are benefiting many more are suffering! I wish Lewisham would invest their time and money in the area I live in!" (F.N.)

"What hurry to install those road blockades? Speed? What speed? Why did you have to rush all this undemocratic, arrogant, tyrannical, ill devised, ill planned, ill timed changes so fast and so suddenly? You know you cannot make live experiments onto people's real skins and lives and you are doing exactly this! And as a matter of fact we keep complaining here with Greenwich, Lewisham, Southwark, Enfield councils that I know of and they are listening to no reasons; they are completely deaf to the problems they have engineered. Lewisham Council has been even able to swiftly install a new bike lane onto one of the few remaining highways open. It is Molesworth Street in SE13 where the new bike lane has just been placed right next to a pre-existing one carved previously onto the paved area hugging the same very road so that now you have: one bike lane onto the pavement, one onto a pre-existing car lane and only one remaining lane for vehicular movement where there were two! These acts are absurd and fuelled by your central policy! Whereas you are in fact ultimately responsible. That, again is ill minded and ill-timed; so extreme and bordering on the very absurd". (F.P.)

"I am a resident of Lewisham and am extremely disappointed at the road closures that have been implemented, which are causing massive disruption and much longer journey times for me, and I suspect all drivers" (D.M.)

"Maybe the council should consider the gas emissions as traffic is now being pushed onto the main roads and sitting idle for sometime. Not all residents are able to cycle or walk and, are they thinking only of the minority or all of us. They should channel some of that funding into collecting the rubbish and help stop the fly tipping that is going on and help provide jobs. People cannot afford all the charges that they have been putting on us and what's happened to the days when you paid your taxes and they collected items from around the area and not having to pay enormous prices to get something removed from your property. This country is like the rest as we become a world of greed. God help us all". (J.G.)

"I was returning from my ALL yoga class at Brockley Rise, just after noon. And thereby hangs a tale. The main ALL centre is at Brockley Rise, and for classes including yoga, pilates, movement etc. I always take equipment and at present it is preferable to take one's own due to the required cleaning of the centre's equipment, because of Covid. I have to drive. Instead of a 15 minute journey via Dermody Hill, Courthill Road, Ladywell and on I now have to drive along the Lee High Road, central Lewisham, Molesworth street, Lewisham High Street (blocked), Ladywell and on. It can take up to 30 minutes. Returning I came via the South Circular, through Catford, badly congested from Torridon Road until turning onto Burnt Ash, down to Lee Green, left into the Lee High Road, and then home - a good half hour. I am contributing to extra pollution and congestion thro' no fault of my own. And it happens every week. And then, it was added to .... at the T-junction with Northbrook I had to stop as a Waitrose food delivery van was reversing back from Wolfram Close. I waited and then proceeded down the Terrace, only to discover a huge long

open lorry, carrying scaffolding, planks, building materials, also reversing back up. Luckily I could just park on the pavement, out of the way to let him pass, and there was a third vehicle trying to get out behind the lorry. Has anyone assessed MLT? It is a short road. It is a narrow road. It has a sharp bend in the middle, and just beyond that there is the T-junction with Wolfram Close. Most residents here have a car, some have 2, so there is a lot of parked vehicles, and add on those who visit, for whatever purpose. And the road has been left unattended and not properly managed, by the council. Is anyone bothered about the safe management of our roads?" (P.R.)

"I am opposed of the closures and would like the trial basis schemes to go back. Driving in south east London is becoming ridiculous for no reason. It's as if we stopped paying road tax. The amount of traffic on the roads in Lewisham now is at an all-time high". (M.T.)

"Hi, thank you for your work and I signed the petition. I was one of the confused motorists who got stung with a fine on Dermody Road and did some investigation into how exactly legal the council had been in enacting the LTNs. I decided to try to comb through and see if any compliance issues could be teased out, which I did find. Thank you also because I found a useful paragraph from you. The rule of law exists in UK and the whims of a council cannot circumvent that, even if they dress it up as "Covid measures." Especially if their plan predates those Covid measures. The whole Lee green LTN from start to finish has been a complete bodge job, but that could be a fantastic secret weapon for your cause. And I'm fairly convinced that the notices for the TTMO or EMO are inaccurate and non-compliant. I'm attaching my letter and hoping there might be some regulatory issues to challenge the council on as I personally feel just the massive inconvenience and public outcry isn't that important or persuasive to the council; they will say people are 'moaning'. Also, I've noticed quite a discrepancy between the formal legal framework of how it should be and the way the councillors and mayor talk on Twitter, Newssshopper, publicity etc about it. They clearly think Covid measures give them a blank cheque. It has been awful for particularly older residents who feel trapped in their homes". (K.C.)

"The road closures in Lewisham Borough are causing no end of frustration and unnecessary delays. Major gridlock on Thursday 17th September around the Hither Green railway bridge. It took me an hour and three quarters to get from Catford Town Hall to Rayford Avenue, normally a 10 to 15 min journey. On Thursday 24th it took me an hour to the same journey. How can this be helping the environment when all the emissions are on one road. We pay road tax to use the roads not to park on them." (J.L.)

"Our road has turned into a shortcut which drivers speed down, accelerating quickly and braking hard then crashing over the speed bumps and generally driving dangerously on a road that has many young children and cyclists". (M.H.)

"Hi who can I can badger every day by email to complain about pathetic road management ( or total lack of ) in lewisham, greenwich and southwark?" (A.O.)

“Many thanks for all your hard work on behalf of Lewisham residents who are seriously troubled by all the sudden road closures. I notice that you have only been communicating with the Lee Green ward residents and councillors but these closures include many residents in the Lewisham central ward of whom I am one. Since the closure of Dermody Road coinciding with the Morley Road closure for roadworks, I live in one of 11 streets effectively made into a cul de sac with a single exit and entry point at the mini roundabout on Courthill Road which is a bridge over the railway. I have objected in writing to all relevant parties and got nowhere. Furthermore, as we are now effectively cut off from Lee Green, we now have stopped giving our custom to the local businesses there on our weekly car journey”. (T.W.)

“I very strongly object to the Lewisham Council road closures. It has made it almost impossible for me to visit my very elderly in laws. Last night we sat in the traffic for 90 minutes on a journey that should have taken 20 minutes. In the end we had to park the car and walk over 20 minutes with heavy bags of shopping for my 91 and 89 year old in laws. I am 65 and this was not easy. The pollution that this measure must have resulted in is just appalling, particularly with the problem of global warming that we are all so worried about. The roads are completely congested and several local businesses have told me how badly their business has been affected by this completely unnecessary move. PLEASE REVERSE THIS DECISION”. (H.A.)

“Many thanks for your reply and apologies for not contacting you sooner. So that you are aware for future reference, our property is in Greenwich [our rates are paid to them] but the pavement and road comes under Lewisham!! I have experienced a massive increase in my journey times since the introduction of road closures in our area and as I am unable to walk very far I have to rely on being able to drive. I will contact both Lewisham and Greenwich councillors and look forward to hearing any feedback you may have received”. (P.H.)

“Thank you for your great efforts regarding these road closures. I have been particularly impacted by this as I live on Leahurst Road with my daughter who is 15. My daughter has Spina Bifida which is a mobility disability and also a neuropathic bladder. I am responsible for taking her to and from school as public transport can be overwhelming for her. Since returning back to school a few weeks ago I have had to resort to parking our car on Springbank Road (2 roads away) because it allows me to access my route to her school easier. This means she is required to walk to and from the car everyday despite how it will take its toll on her physically. I am proud of her efforts to push past the discomfort just to be able to get to school during the crucial last year of secondary. All routes to Lewisham hospital in case of an emergency has been cut off from us (even though the public had been previously been advised by our government that they were reducing the ambulance service and we should find alternative ways to get to the hospital). I have no route to my GP that is less than 30 mins sitting in traffic. This is not just an inconvenience but could quite possibly be the difference between life and death for some. As you may know the amount of elderly that live around here who sometimes depend on emergency services. After just recently losing my husband I feel especially isolated when I shouldn't be. I have never suffered with anxiety but this has started to have an

detrimental impact on my wellbeing. I hope as a community we can work together to stop this from being our reality for the foreseeable future". (T.J.)

"As was expected the road closures are causing problems radiating for miles around. I live in BR1 on the edge of the borough. I use public transport frequently because I have a freedom pass, but I no longer go shopping in Catford or Lewisham because of the gridlocked traffic on the main roads. I believe if the ignorant people at Lewisham Council think the closures will make people get rid of their cars, they are going to be very disappointed. I am a pensioner so will not be cycling anywhere. I walk quite well, but am fearful because of the dreadful state of the pavements everywhere. So I rely on my car to do shopping and visit relatives and friends. If I am responding this way, I am sure many others are too. The council will find many shops and other businesses in Catford and Lewisham closing down or moving away due to lack of revenue. I predict both will be ghost towns before a year passes. Those that do remain will be too expensive for the lower earners to use. The same will apply to deliveries. When drivers report back that they can only complete half their day's work, due to traffic congestion, companies will respond in ways detrimental to Lewisham residents. Please pass these thoughts to those concerned". (J.B.)

"Thank you so much for all you have done/ are doing to get the idiotic road closures in Lewisham reversed! I'm not sure if you are aware, but not only have several roads in the area been made inaccessible to drivers under the guise of Covid-19, now segregated cycle lanes have popped up on several key routes, one being Molesworth street,(even though there is already a cycle lane taking up half of the pavement) reducing what was already a busy road to one lane for motorised vehicles! They have also started implementing a cycle lane by Lewisham fire station, which has already started to cause confusion and chaos and it hasn't even been completed yet! So ultimately the Council has forced all traffic onto the main roads and then decide to reduce the amount of road space available, forcing already frustrated drivers to sit and stare at empty cycle lanes?! And they really expect us to believe that this isn't a war against drivers! Driving in Lewisham is now unbearable! But then again, so is walking with the major increase in pollution that the Council themselves have created!" (S.H.)

"I have been out this week taking pictures of the new cycle lane in Molesworth St that now restricts ALL traffic (including the emergency services to 1 lane only not to mention some of the other road closures along Rushey Green. It beggars belief that Lewisham are letting TFL come into the borough and just do what they like regardless of the consequences". (J.D.)

"Firstly, many thanks for the time and effort that you are investing into protesting about the ridiculous LTN scheme in the Lee Green area. I thought you may be interested in the dismissive response to an e mail that I sent to Octavia Holland, expressing that she 'couldn't help'. I had previously e mailed Clive Efford of RB Greenwich, given the Sutcliffe junction does indeed fall within his constituency, however he refused to speak with me on account of my living in LB Lewisham. I am particularly incensed that the councils are profiteering from the LTN scheme, given

the sheer volume of penalty notices they are undoubtedly issuing as people are forced into box junctions, and presumably, the bus lane on Eltham Road which has recently and very quietly, changed its hours of operation. It would be interesting to see how much additional income the council is raising from PCN's". (D.C.)

"Me and my Gas Safety business have been suffering from this traffic so much that I am actually on a brink of leaving a 34 year old business which I built from the base and leaving London. Only last week my wife went to a dentist in Eltham and could not get back to me to pick me up to go to work. I had to walk to Yorkshire grey roundabout to meet her. Buses were parked up and drivers left buses to go outside. This is all on Eltham Road. Every morning is the same now. My main question is: why the Police, NHS and Bus drivers as all of these are majorly affected are not writing to the councils of each borough and DEMAND re opening of the roads? They cannot possibly ignore calls from the police and nhs. TFL's own buses are stuck for hours on end . London is a paradise for criminals now as all they need is a motorbike or a moped and they will get away literally with murder as police take time to open these bollards. Hell they probably could get away on a bicycle! We noticed that a padlock has been added on all bollards so you need now 2 keys and extra time to unlock these. What numpty does not understand that to relieve the traffic you need MORE roads to be open. I have written to our MP Clive Efford but, needless to say have had no reply. Funny how Wandsworth, a Tory borough rejected these measures and all Labour boroughs are digging their hills in. Will remember that at the next election. I honestly think that unless the emergency services demand the change nothing will happen. Time to move for us. I have met so many business owners doing our job who are thinking of moving too. London is closed for business". (G.L.)

"The complete chaos that has ensued over the last few weeks speaks volumes more than anything I could put in an e-mail. Once quiet residential side roads around Baring Road, Burnt Ash Hill, the South Circular and as far as the Sun in Sands are gridlocked in all directions from 7am as drivers try to find alternative routes around the Lee area. All Lewisham council have achieved is to make a few roads less polluted while the majority are more polluted AND dangerous. You cannot dispute this, it is clear to see every day, long before the school run starts. Labour Lewisham have lost the trust and respect of the electorate at a time when the Tory Governments ineptitude has reached record levels. Lewisham Council have managed to overshadow that and anger residents & created a backlash to a level I haven't seen in years. I strongly suggest you enter into immediate consultation with the electorate, residents & businesses affected by these road closures (That is anyone who lives in Lewisham) and be prepared to reverse these decisions, at least until a time when public transport can offer a viable alternative to driving". (D.L.)

"I am an OAP living in Lewisham Borough for over 40 years. Please read the following with patience and respect. I wish to express my deep concern and dismay regarding recent Road Closures in Lewisham area under your Clean Air/ Safer Cycling/Safer Walking/Fight against Covid 19/ and what not. Some of the many effects due to closures are as follows: 1) As I have a few underlining medical issues, I fear in case of an emergency I will not be able to get medical attention on time due

to heavy traffic nearby, basically due to recent road blocks; 2) It takes more than two hours extra each day for my wife to get to work and back; 3) She gets home irritated, tired and depressed, which is affecting our married life; 4) As she works in a local school with young children, she cannot afford to be late to work; 5) If she travels by public transport, situation will be worse and in addition exposure to Covid 19; 6) At her age and health condition, cycling or walking to work is out of the question; 7) She is the only bread winner and if she loses her job due to lateness, who will put food on the table?; 8) More time is taken to visit my children and Grandson due to these road closures. Please note that my wife nor I can cycle or walk to Bexley to visit them; 9) Due to the longer travel time and the heavy traffic conditions we are forced to limit our visits which has resulted in anxiety, disappointment and dismay; 10) Our children also limited their visits to see us because of time loss, depriving us from seeing our only grandson who is just 1 yr old; 11) Traffic diverted to main roads causing long delays and Heavy traffic; 12) Vehicles use more fuel and pollute more in these heavy traffic areas; eventually polluted air get dispersed to other areas; 13) Sitting in these traffic jams people tend to lose their patience, get agitated, angry and a tendency to break traffic rules leading to accidents and road rage. My wife has been on the receiving end of a few road rage incidents on the way to work in the mornings; 14) Valuable time is lost sitting in these traffic jams instead of productive time at work or valuable time at home with the love ones; 15) Talking to local shops and amnesties, they all feel the pinch of lack of customers due to heavy traffic conditions and the knock-on effect. As a nation we are all being affected by Covid 19 in many ways and are still struggling to deal with the epidemic. On top of this Lewisham residents are forced to struggle with the extra pollution, Traffic delays , Loss of time, depression and anxiety. I hope you appreciate and understand that the roads are being planned and constructed so that people could travel effectively and with ease. Please note that there are a lot of people who cannot walk for long distances or cycle at all. What Lewisham Council is trying to do is forcing these people to stay at home. This is purely violation of HUMAN RIGHTS". (G.K.)

"I just wanted to email about these plant pots that have been located around Lewisham. I can't understand the benefits about blocking many roads. Then what's happened is all the traffic is now on the main roads. I was 0.3 miles away from home and the journey took me 15 minutes. This is disgusting now to find out the these plant pots have cameras. Is this a way for the council to get back some money they have lost during this uncertain period. I have signed the petition. Disappointed Lewisham resident". (D.H).

"I live in Lee and unfortunately for me, on the Greenwich side and one question I have is why you have put a barrier to stop me using the shops and services in Lee and why you and your council have not worked with Greenwich to find a possible solution for the whole of the Crathie estate. I wholly disagree with everyone of these measures for the odd pedestrian and cyclist. And to me, you have little concern as none of the planning has taken anything into account other than a desire to close roads. With footpaths in the area, I find that I often have to walk into a road as your council does not clear hedgerows from that block footpaths. Also on Upwood we have a tree that blocks the footpath unless you are under 4feet tall. With what's left

of the roads in the area, you have not looked at any of the major junctions and added filter lanes. Because of your policy, we have constant and persistent traffic jams where none existed before. Finally, because of this, I am personally convinced that because of this traffic congestion created by yourselves, emergency services will not be able to deal with an incident and someone will lose their life. Extreme I know but after the traffic this week because of the road closures, this is a real possibility". (A.C.)

"I've signed all the petitions that there is to sign regarding the road closures around Lee and Hither Green; they're an absolute joke and I can't believe Lewisham still haven't listened to all the residents and local shopkeepers and commuters passing through!!! I also spoke with Lewisham Highways yesterday and they said I was one of hundreds of people to call in and complain about how gridlocked it is around Catford, Lewisham and surrounding areas. Please keep me updated on this unnecessary headache that we are all experiencing and thank you for what you've done so far. Fingers crossed that this will be reversed soon, for everyone's sanity lol". (L.H.)

"I am a driving instructor and have worked in this industry as an instructor and examiner for 30 years. I live 30 miles away from Lewisham in Aylesford but will only teach in Lewisham and this has had devastating effects on my business as you can imagine. I have told these idiots that people don't work around the corner from where they live and on the M20 every morning I see mainly work vans not people driving to offices as they think. The driving test centre at Hither Green were not even informed of this change and now they are having to close after over 60 years serving the community. Driving tests can't finish every time back in the test centre and having to finish by the blocked width restriction or under the bridge as examiners can't go through the cameras. My friend's granddaughter is a police officer at Lewisham police station and didn't know anything about this until the council had done it. I now see emergency vehicles struggling to get to places that were easy to access previously, fire brigade the other day shaking their heads as they can't get their fire engines around some of the restricted roads purposely made narrow. This looney lefty council belong in the 70's - they have no regard for safety or about helping our economy to grow. I will continue to spend 4 hours travelling every day out of principle but will struggle to teach in Lewisham. To make matters worse the bus lanes that could have been used between non rush hours are now full time bus lanes....everything comes at once and I was able to use the bus lanes when not in use - now they are clear in case a bus comes down the road every 10 mins, it's crazy. Now they have wasted so much money on this they will not do a U-turn. It needs proper legal action taken against them". (L.D.)

"Interesting to see the item in the News Shopper. It seems to indicate a totally profligate attitude towards traffic management expenditure by Lewisham (investment would be far too good a word for it!) and it seems that - as local councils go - they are by no means unique. To them, it appears perfectly acceptable to devise one nutjob experiment to reduce traffic - at whatever expense - and then chuck more money up the wall to modify it when it's deemed to be a failure. I guess the only people with little to moan about are the ones who are getting paid for each time they

have to go out and hack the roads up, no matter how many times it takes. The worst part is that they seem completely oblivious of the contradiction, that - if their true aim is to "improve air quality" - creating situations that cause heavier, slower moving traffic is a rather counter-productive way of achieving it!". (R.W.)

"I have sent my comments to Damien Egan. We are suffering a huge increase of traffic in our road all day and night". (R.B.)

"I am writing to tell you why I am objecting to the road closures in Lewisham. Whilst I understand the road closures were temporary measures to improve pollution quality and encourage walking and cycling. I live on Verdant Lane (which on a normal day is already busy) since the road closures we have non-stop traffic from 7:30am through to 9pm. This is ridiculous, I lost my job due to me not being able to drive into work (it would take me 3 hours to drive in and 3 hours to drive back 40mins being on Verdant Lane which is only a min drive) We were not allowed to travel by public transport due to colleague safety. My child has also returned to school and the 40min travel journey is now 2 hours one way! My child came back feeling weak and feint from travelling on the bus for that long having to wear a face mask throughout that journey too! This is unhealthy and a health hazard. Yes, it may have freed up traffic but it is diverting traffic onto other roads. So please explain how this is reducing air pollution? Residents are not going to stop going to work just because there are road closures. (Some residents rely on cars to get to work and cannot always travel on public transport). Moving traffic from one road onto another is not really a solution. (It's like brushing a problem under the carpet!). Roads are made to be used. Residents who support the road closures chose to live in a property on a road. So they should expect cars to pass. Those who didn't want to live on a road should have chosen to live in the countryside. I am sure I am not the only resident to have experienced inconvenience and frustration due to these road closures". (H.O.)

"Thanks for updates. As you're aware there is traffic chaos yesterday and today in Lee, South Circular etc due to burst water main!! Yet another lie and failure from our Council as they clearly stated that any road works or accidents etc, then the barriers would be opened... I'm not surprised however!!!" (H.Q)

"I would like to object to the recent road closures in Lewisham borough. How do I do this in an official capacity? We drive through Lee and surrounding areas to drop our children in Colfes (Lee) and Alleyns (Dulwich) and this school year journey times have more than doubled". (K.A).

"Further to my recent e-mails, I wish to report the following: 1). Yesterday (16-9-20) my wife and I were stuck in a traffic jam at the Kidbrooke junction (caused by the volume of traffic backing up to the Lee Green junction) and witnessed the unacceptable sight of an ambulance with lights flashing being unable to negotiate not only the jam in the Lewisham direction, but also unable to use the oncoming lane(s) due to congestion there as well. Is this REALLY less important than cycling!???! ; 2). Recently, Burnt Ash Road has been jammed for many hours per day. I have done your job for you both and spoken to the local DIY shop, the shoemenders, the hairdressing salon, the newsagent, the dentist and all say that the pollution is far worse than before. In addition, the shoemender and the newsagent say they are

losing trade. At a time when the financial effect of both Brexit and the pandemic is at its most serious, how can you defend your current traffic policy? Please note that I consider your recent message as Mayor to be far too general (cycling and walking mantras have been around for years) while I have bothered to go into detail and asked local businesses and shopkeepers/owners what it is ACTUALLY like 'on the ground'; 3), Several residents in our road are elderly (my wife and are no longer young) and have various ailments such as cancer and artificial knees/hips associated with arthritis. They can't walk to the shops and then carry shopping, nor can they cycle. Could you please LISTEN to what is happening, as opposed to repeating the politically correct 'line' every time you and your colleagues are challenged? I am most sorry as a Lewisham resident of over 40 years to have to write in this tone-----the council under your predecessor ran far better and we were all very happy. It was also more 'accessible'. What has happened on your watch?. (R.S.)

"I am so frustrated with the blight on my life and my families as a result of these road closures introduced by Lewisham. I bring these points to your attention as a resident of Lee since 1992 and of Lee Greenwich since 1995. This is an unmitigated disaster. "Lewisham's own research has shown that 60% of vehicles cutting through the area are non-residential traffic" [14th Jan 2020]. The LTN has resulted in reducing traffic flows through the boroughs of Greenwich & Lewisham this 60% of traffic is being delayed owing to road closures, is being forced onto reduced number of A roads resulting in more stationary traffic congestion, longer journey times (was 20mins, now 1hr/15mins Lee to Greenwich), higher air pollution on Lee High Road in Greenwich, longer bus journey times etc. What monitoring of local businesses feedback and local Chambers of Commerce is being monitored? Impacts on local economy and business appears to be completely absent from all the online and hardcopy snail mail that I have read". (M.J.)

"I would like information on how to object to the closure of local roads in Lewisham and the resulting traffic chaos and increased pollution levels for local householders". (S.C.)

"I would like to support the campaign against road closures in Lewisham. I don't understand the reasons for the closure. We are already seeing more traffic on the main roads and there is a more pollution as result. We should be informed what the reason is for the closures and when the roads will be opened up as it is also more dangerous now for children travelling to school". (M.H.)

"I am writing to complain about the road closures in Lewisham Borough. There has been no real thought put into this. The road closures have resulted in moving traffic from one place to another and making other roads within the borough very unsafe and very busy. I live in Kingshurst Road and for the first time in 30 years on Monday 7 September the cars were tail to bumper in our road. It was horrible. Our road is normally very quiet and peaceful; well on this occasion that was not the case. As I live near Winn Road I have also seen an increase in traffic coming up that road as well. That road is a known accident hotspot and it makes no sense for more traffic to be encouraged into that road. Further up the roads around Grove Park have been

gridlocked every morning for the past month. Where once this area was fairly quiet and peaceful it has turned into an accident waiting to happen. Please relook at your plans again as it is quite obvious that these road closures are not working". (S.C.)

"I write to log my complaint regarding road closures in the London Borough of Lewisham, particularly around Hither Green! Apart from the closure onto Leahurst Road in junction with the bottom of Ennersdale Road, it would now appear that Manor Park Road is also closed. I am forced to join the heavy traffic on Burnt Ash or indeed Brownhill Road to get anywhere near Leahurst -it would appear that we have been completely cut off !!!! These road closures were put in place with no consultation from the resident which is totally unacceptable. Besides, what has COVID-19 got to do with road closures - do these roads carry a high concentration of the virus, therefore rendering these areas extremely toxic? I do not see the logic....." (D.G).

"One of your leaflets came through my letterbox and normally I would just put any such leaflets in my recycling bin but the 'bold' heading caught my eye. I read the leaflet and to be honest it just adds to my stress. Why in heavens name would Lewisham, at this time, resort to closing or narrowing roads plus some of the bollards look permanent. Road closure started decades ago - like at my end of Minard Road which causes cars to still go through even though they can only access one side. I fear that there may be a serious accident there one day. At a time like this when people should be on the move - 'social distancing' and not added stress to their lives. Went down to Sainsbury's in Lee Green yesterday and normally turn off on St. Mildred's Road but had go straight to the end and turn left at the traffic lights. Well it was just before 2pm and the traffic on Burnt Ash Hill was horrendous. Drivers were getting impatient and I was surprised that fights did not break out as there was the constant honking of horns and cars literally forcing their way through small gaps to get ahead. I am a disabled lady due to arthritis and just wanted to accompany my husband to the supermarket and get some fresh air - well just out of the house for the drive and expect to get there and back as quick as possible. WHAT IS LEWISHAM PLAYING AT? They always have to go to the extreme in anything they do whether it benefits the locals or not. I used to work with Politicians and they are the most arrogant people I have ever come across. Some know ???? but you can't tell them they are wrong as the position they gain as Councillors seem to go to their heads and they know what they know and to hell with the local residents. How can traffic jams benefit the health of this borough or any borough for example. The fumes that are generated from stationary cars and think about the people who live along these road and cannot open their windows especially when it gets hot. Once we left Sainsbury's we had to take a longer route home. I suspected for some time that Lewisham had plans due to the number of traffic monitoring devices I have been seeing around the place - is it a ploy to extend the 'Congestion Charge'?. I have lived here for 29 years plus and just want to move away - as far as possible from Lewisham as I am fed up with the nonsense the politicians dream up and bring into action with no thoughts of the residents who vote for them. Well I don't vote for that very reason as I have seen no sensible change in the area over the years - like narrowing the roads and endless line markings where you can't help but to enter as

they give you no choice with the miniscule gaps they create. I wish you luck with your endeavours and you have my full support". (C.F.)

"I am interested in objecting to the road closures in Lewisham. I live in Forest Hill SE23 and my adult son with care needs lives just off Lee High Road, Lewisham SE13. My usual car journey would take 15-20 mins via Ennersdale and Leahurst Road & Manor Lane. Since the road closures this journey now takes over an hour per journey via Brownhill Road through to Burnt Ash Hill SE12". (P.W.)

"The traffic on Horncastle Road was only minor before the road closures. Now it's HGVs of all sizes. And tons of Cars. Basically motorway traffic. With the 273 bus as well it's a nightmare. The road is way too narrow. We have a lot of young kids living on this road as well as my own. Definitely not helping with the anxiety. Good luck". (C.L.)

"As a resident of Catford I strongly object to the proposals to closing the roads in the Borough of Lewisham. On these grounds: 1. All the traffic has been filtered on to the main road which cannot cope causing huge traffic to build up. Traffic in the morning and heavy parts of the day are so built up and heavy. 2. Emergency services will struggle to get through especially where the terrible planters have been placed. it all adds huge amounts of time and will cause problems. 3. where it took 10 mins to get the Sainsburys at Lee it now takes 40mins. 4. there is a huge increase in carbon monoxide. I would like to know what the covid 19 has to do with the planters as you planned them before. They have nothing to do with closing the road" (P.P)

"I am writing to you to object to the road closures around Hither Green, particularly the ones leading to Leahurst road. I live on Leahurst Road and these closures are a huge inconvenience and are causing dangerous driving around the area". (C.L.)

"I have recently been affected by road closures in the Lewisham borough... it is totally senseless! There has been no consultation with residents and all it has achieved is far more traffic on major roads. I fail to see how driving your car down a road can have an impact on the spread of COVID-19????". (G.D.)

"Thank you for hosting the Zoom meeting on Saturday, I hope we gave some useful feedback as to what is happening in Lewisham. I am dismayed to read that Lewisham have not taken sufficient air quality data before closures to give a correct account of pollution levels which in my opinion is massaging the figures to create the desired outcome, and surely is a totally false representative study of the true inadequacies the scheme is creating as far as pollution is concerned. Not sure if you are aware the closures have now gone in at Greenwich which apparently went to consultation with the residents objecting, and Greenwich Council went ahead anyway! They are now doing a traffic count on the closed roads and not where the traffic is being pushed onto, again giving a false representation. Just for information the traffic on Burnt Ash this morning was horrendous and took 15 minutes to clear through the lights at Lee Green from the bridge at Lee Green Station, which is longer than my entire journey to work, obviously throwing out emissions with the thousands of other drivers using this and surrounding roads". (G.W.)

“Can you please let me know if I can contribute by stopping this insane policy. I live in Leahurst Road and there are number of roads closed. I would understand one road but 4 in one-mile radius is unbelievable. I am not sure what this idiot of mayor is trying to do”. (S.G.)

“I’m so appalled by these closures, I’m a key worker working with the most vulnerable. I live on Leahurst Rd, and what would have been a 30 second drive up to HGL now takes me 40 mins. Like how absurd is this!!! Not to mention those residents who live on Pascoe Rd. They don’t have a choice but to go through the filter to park on their street that they pay road tax for and resident permit. I support this campaign.” (S.C.)

“I have just read a report of the zoom meeting held yesterday in relation to the road closures in Lee /Lewisham. There has been chaotic build-up of massive traffic queues on main roads like Burnt Ash Road and Eltham Road to name a few. Since these closures had been introduced, I am very concerned that pollution levels could be at extremely dangerous levels. This could affect people with health conditions and breathing problems. My first question is - has Lewisham council monitored the pollution levels since the closures? The idea of the road closures was to encourage people to use public transport. Have TFL introduced more buses on the roads to cater to this need? Have TFL and Lewisham council thought about this, as lots of school children depend highly on public transport to get to school on time? My third question is - will TFL/Lewisham council be installing a right turn green filter traffic light on the Lee green/Blackheath traffic light junction (near the Sainsburys)? Thank you again for arranging the Zoom meeting. I am very unhappy about these road closures.” (J.P.)

“As promised yesterday on zoom please find attached details regarding the possible Hither Green Lane closure which will maroon us living in Lee even more as we could only access Lewisham Hospital & Ladywell etc via Catford Gyatory or Lee High Road which would add major time/petrol/emissions on the journey !” (E.M.)

“Hi I would like to be informed more about road closure in Lewisham area. I think this is enormous inconvenience for us as residents”. (M.E.)

“Please stop the road closures now before it is too late. This can’t be permanent”. (J.M.)

“I have lived in Lewisham area SE13 since I was born. Always I’m driving as I have disabled kids and my wife also. I am a self-employed worker. Please remove the cameras as soon as possible. You are not bringing any favours to anybody then why are you going to close the road?” (S.P.)

“I’m totally opposed to the closures as I am disabled and my husband is elderly. We have lived here for 42 years and cannot believe the comments we are putting up with from supporters of the scheme I live in Milborough Crescent and our access to Manor Lane has been closed off adjacent to the end of our road causing us to increase our journey times by up to 40 minutes !”. (E.M.)

"I am writing to you all in the sincere hope that you can bring some pressure to bear on Lewisham Council with a view to easing the traffic chaos prevailing in Lew Green for many weeks now. I have read the reasons behind the closures and, whilst applauding the sentiments behind these closures, I feel that there have been grave errors in judgement in some areas. I work in Lee High Road and, being disabled, need to take my car to work. I would estimate that, given my journey time has practically doubled since these closures, my carbon emissions have done the same. We sit in Lee High Road watching a never-ending stream of traffic pass and breathe in the fumes that the stationary traffic emits. Going home involves crossing the South Circular at the junction of Burnt Ash Hill and the queue is appalling. I realise that these are merely my personal observations but it must be clear to all that, whatever the solution to traffic easing might be, these closures are most definitely not the answer. I strongly object to the council's suggestion that many of the closed roads are "rat runs" I have indeed used these routes on occasion but, given the humps, width restrictions etc., they only prove a viable alternative route when the main highways are blocked due to an incident or other. The present situation means that, should any incident occur, there is no way that traffic can naturally filter out of the area, as was the case a couple of weeks ago on Burnt As Hill. I would be most grateful if you could assist in this matter because this state of affairs needs to be addressed, preferably sooner rather than later". (M.B.)

"I was born in Lewisham and we have many Businesses in the local area, from Catford to Lee green and Brockley cross. These Roads being closed is crazy! It is causing lots of traffic and headaches. Surely people who work and live around these roads know that we the business people need to move around quickly and safely. With these closures we are now being pushed into the south circular where the traffic is worse! You don't expect us to travel by bike or walk with our stocks and tools?" (H.M.)

"I would like to object about the road closures. I live in the Lee area, my children go to school in Lewisham and Ladywell. I'm a carer in the Lewisham and Greenwich area as well as work part time in Grove Park. Not using my car is not practical for my situation. It was bad enough trying to get my 3 children and me on the only bus that goes down our road every morning for school but now the buses have a restriction on how many are allowed on, the bus isn't an option anymore. What once was a 10-15 minute journey from Lewisham to home by car now takes 45 minutes. I don't see how this will help the environment when I'm stuck in my car for longer using more petrol; even when stationary I still use the air con. which uses petrol so I'm filling up more often. The road closures are a joke. It will not encourage or force me to use bikes and risk the safety of my children especially as it's made people drive more erratically due to the heavy traffic jams. Only the other day someone nearly crashed into me driving the wrong way down a one-way road near Trinity school because he couldn't be bothered to wait in traffic on Hither Green Lane. It's not right but there are selfish people who are willing to act dangerously. These are stressful and uncertain times and the council's road closures are putting more pressure and stress on the working families who are trying to set the right examples for their children. From what I have witnessed, the only people that are happy with the road restrictions/closures

are the ones who don't work and don't have a care in the world because they have no time restrictions. So my question to the council is what are you trying to achieve or prove?". (C.G.)

"I strongly disagree with these closures. I work for the Borough of Lewisham and respond to vulnerable clients in the Borough. These road closures have delayed us responding to our clients , and one day the outcome will result in more serious consequences. Sitting in traffic , unable to access roads, this is not solving anything. If anything the situation is causing more pollution, congestion and more aggressive drivers. The fact that we as residents of the borough were not consulted is not acceptable". (A.B.)

"I can't believe how many roads they have already closed off around my area. There are no alternatives so the knock-on effect to the main roads is horrendous. Do they not realise that we have a major supermarket (Sainsbury's) which attracts a good flow of vehicles? So more stationary traffic gives off more fumes and I can't imagine how the residents on or near these main roads are reacting to this. It's diabolical and stupid! I for one object very strongly and where was the consultation exercise? Oh yeah, no democracy. Did our local MP agree to this?" (T.S.)

"I object due to the extent of the negative impact on the surrounding roads. Travel time is so much longer. Pollution is no better. People are not travelling on public transport. Cycling is dangerous and it takes too long". (N.F.)

Signage is incorrect and not enough warnings. Shops are suffering locally. I now drive further afield which is not saving the pollution or my time and energy.

"I am very unhappy at the road closures and the due road closures in the borough. I have great concerns about the emergency services being unable to take the fastest routes to you when it is most needed within the community. It would appear that the government/borough are very pleased to take the motorists money for taxes, mot and insurance, vat and petrol revenue as long as you don't use the vehicle. As an older driver who has paid into the system for many a year it would appear I am now expect to cycle or walk. Neither is suitable for my disabilities, therefore I would ask the government to reimburse me as a motorist which I know is not even in the debate. Let's make sure that the cyclist have insurance anyway as some reckless cyclists are a law unto themselves. The idea that the traffic should be pushed onto the major roads contributing to more idling pollutions with the cars, lorries and buses, journey time on buses will be longer. At this moment in time with the covid the transport capacity is unable to take its full load of people, I thought they wanted the country to get back to work this encourages no such thing, as well as the extended congestion charge which has increased where is the joined up thinking in all this! (M.B.)

"I want to register my objection to the recent road closures. I am resident in the area and cannot understand why these closures exist as it does not make any sense. What it did is simply increase the congestion at other roads and caused great inconvenience and disruption to our life. My journey to work has doubled because of

it and the impact on me and my family is dire. This need to be stopped immediately” (B.O.).

“I am quite disgusted at all these road closures. It took us 50 minutes to make a journey which usually takes us 10 to 15 minutes. The emissions from the traffic in Lewisham must have gone on greatly. Please let us know how we can object. Maybe a march on city Hall”. (M.G.)

“I live on Verdant Lane towards the junction with the south circular. Traffic is always queued up outside my house. 3 years ago we tested pollution levels outside our house as part of a 'Clean Air For Catford' initiative. The results read higher than '40' which was above the legal limit. Pollution now can only be higher as the queues of traffic have grown significantly due to the road closures. This is ridiculous. It is really hard to park because the traffic is always at a standstill outside my house. This means that I sometimes have to park far from my house and walk home with two small children and whatever shopping I may have. It also means that if I have to drive home down Verdant lane I have to queue for 10-20 minutes before I can even see whether there is a parking space near my house or not. I was worried about the dangerous levels of pollution before the road closures and am now enraged that instead of doing something to tackle them, Lewisham council have made it worse. If my children develop asthma I shall be holding them accountable”. (R.S.)

“I object to the recent road closures made by the London Borough of Lewisham. They are ill-judged and unnecessary and serve to create additional congestion elsewhere and they are a large inconvenience. There has been little or no consultation about this. Furthermore, using COVID-19 as the reason for the closures is spurious. This cannot be a genuine reason and it is outrageous to use a deadly pandemic which has caused so many deaths and so much grief and suffering to justify traffic measures. The decision to close the roads must be reversed”. (T.G.)

“I am a resident in Holme Lacey Road. I am not in principle objecting to roads being closed per se, but to the way in which it has been implemented without proper consultation and impact assessment being carried out. Earlier in the year, I asked the question at the meeting held in Trinity School. The councillors there were intent then on progressing. They were dismissive of the objections being raised. There are genuine issues to be addressed, but I cannot see what has been done that has addressed the issues. I do drive but not locally as I like to walk, so not accessing the back streets is not an issue to me, but I strongly object to unfairness and lack of democracy. It is not a proven position that their proposals will reduce pollution and in this area it will increase pollution”. (J.F.)

“I can't quite gather the real purpose behind the road closures in Lewisham. If the council thinks they are doing us more good, I am afraid they are not. In fact I personally think these closures are generating heavier traffic than before. As a resident of Lewisham I object to these closures”. (D.S.)

“I strongly object to the excessive roads closures in Lewisham, which has led to greater traffic congestion and more air pollution in the area”. (D.D.)

"I agree the road closures are causing more congestion, air pollution and "grid lock". I live in the borough of Lewisham and am a cycle, car and public transport user. What the council has done is un democratic and did not have public consultation. The roads are for everyone, not just cycle users. The closure of Courthill/ Dermody Road and Ennersdale/Leahurst Roads is insane as the bridges in these roads provide the only access over or under the railway line between Lewisham and St. Mildreds Road forcing traffic onto the already congested A20 or A205 Roads". (R.H.)

"Thank you for the pamphlet that was dropped through my door concerning the above. I am so frustrated with all these unnecessary road closures that claim to be "temporary" but end up being permanent. It seems to me that they are rushing through these road closures without the correct consultation. I live in Grove Park and I was travelling home from Lewisham via Hither Green Lane a journey that usually takes me 20m tops is now 50m... unbelievable". (G.D.)

"Yes opposed to it. I seem to be boxed in and trapped in my own home! I'm near Hither Green station Fernbrook road, and it's ridiculous. When school starts it will over double my school run to Brockley, due to the Leahurst / Ennersdsle Road barriers.. I'll have to go back on myself To actually go forward.. All the way to Burnt Ash Hill ... the south circular is going to be crazy at rush hour more than it ever was.. standstill I expect .. pumping out fumes.". (R.S.)

"Absolute nightmare! Lewisham Road closures causing more disruption!!" (A.N.)

"I would like to be involved in the campaign. I think it is pitching non driver i.e. those who can't afford a car against those who can but it has far wider implications. I think a lot of women have been sold the idea as something for the younger generation without realising what impact it will have on their lives even if they don't have a car. I don't have a car, my partner who lives with me part time does and we have found it impossible at times to drive anywhere since the closures have started. Our journey home from Devon was a nightmare on the 17 August, we arrived at Vauxhall Bridge because the Sat Nav does not know it is closed at 18.15 and home to Glenton Raod at 21.30. On another occasion we wanted to meet friends at Beckenham Park and that took over an hour. It used to be 35 minutes on public transport but that is also a victim of congestion. There are a lot of problems with the scheme: It makes the air slightly better for some but disproportionately worse for others as congested traffic pollutes more than traffic that moves and uses considerably more petrol. The poorest people most prone to asthma and breathing problems tend to live on the limited roads that can be used. Asking people to spend 15 minutes longer to get from A to B will not stop them driving but it will cause a lot more pollution, we need to find out how many people they think will stop using their cars by sex and demography. Since working from home, I have become aware of how seldom most of my neighbours use their cars so why are we being penalised on the rare occasions we want to. Are we going to compare the stats for A&E with more cyclists on the road, Berlin which is far friendlier to the cyclist has seen a major increase in accident rates. I feel that this scheme is so ill considered. If I thought that it would work, I would be prepared to give it the benefit of the doubt but basically until the incentive to travel into central London is removed, the entire borough of Lewisham is always going to

be a rat run. I think this scheme is best fought on the basis that it is very unfair and has the worst impact on the most vulnerable. We need to convince a lot of people who are currently on the fence because their roads have not yet been impacted to show some empathy because it could yet happen to them” (C.B.)

“I have signed the stop Lewisham Road Closure Petition and also chipped in. Let’s hope we can make enough noise to force Lewisham Council into a much-needed U-Turn on the ridiculous measures they have introduced. Thanks for all you are doing”. (D.H.)

“Copy of note to Louise McBride: To follow on from my wife’s email, which I totally agree with, regarding the ridiculous flower boxes blocking our local roads from through traffic, there are a few points I would like to add, firstly our local shops, who have suffered through this virus, have had insult added to the injury by your plans to stop passing traffic from using their services, its highly likely some will be pushed to the wall and go belly up, with them will go the commercial rates we all need to balance the local authorities books or are you anticipating the shortfall will be passed on to home owners? That’s shooting yourself in the foot! Secondly it may be a tad more pleasant for the people in the blocked off roads, or is it? These home owners now have only one exit from their road which will require them to join the overflowing traffic that has quadrupled since the blockades have been placed so strategically. Thirdly by making these road blocks you have successfully forced traffic onto the main roads and created chaos which is horrendous even while the schools are closed and will be greatly increased when schools reopen, this decision has also added to fuel consumption which is anti Green and increased pollution to those people who live on the main roads, this will only get worse in the future, the health of the residents on these roads should also be of concern! Lastly, to the best of my knowledge, this plan has been implemented without due consultation with home owners, certainly we in Helder Grove have had no opportunity to make comment. I’ve noted that The Mail on Sunday has an article this last week that mentions this railroaded through fiasco in Lewisham, I have no doubt they will be interested in our and our friends letters together with your response.” (E.D.)

“Copy of letter to council: As a Lewisham resident, I want it to be known that I strongly object to the road closures that Lewisham is embarking on. The chaos on surrounding roads is already evident and your programme is only in it's infancy. I'm all for a cleaner environment /safer roads etc. - For this reason, I only use my car for work, which is approx 25 miles outside Catford. My journey from home (Braidwood Rd) to join the A2 normally takes approx. 10 minutes, but since your road closures, the same journey can take me up to 40 mins. By the actions your department have taken so far, more and more traffic has been forced on the South Circular both ways, causing absolute mayhem. This is counterproductive in every way (including more pollution) and believe it or not, I have witnessed more accidents. Are you forgetting that the South Circular is someone's neighbourhood too? The ones who live along BROWNHILL RD/ ST MILDREDS RD, whether they be in the many care homes or ordinary residents - Are they not Lewisham residents? How are the people along these roads different to the ones on the back streets/estates? From my observation, there are already many traffic calming measures that Lewisham have

employed (width restrictions, speed bumps, etc.) . Just police what you have in place already. I urge you and your department not to clog up this borough any further. The traffic that comes in and out need to do so smoothly -Cars & lorries should not be hanging around anyone's neighbourhood longer than needed. The course your department have chosen is counterproductive and I urge them to change it". (H.M.)

"As a Lewisham borough resident I am furious about these road closures. There has been zero consultation before implementation with Lewisham borough residents. Apparently they only contacted people living on or around affected streets. But the impact is affecting negatively on all of us. I discovered for example that you can no longer drive from Lewisham High Street via Dermody Road to Lee High Road, as well as a variety of other local road closures to vehicles. These closures have caused utter chaos, with more to come. They say these are 'temporary measures' under the Covid flag but everyone knows that once they are in they are here to stay. The council and/or TfL will make money from violation fines. They say more people are electing to cycle due to covid and this is the reason behind it. Who exactly are all these people? Many do not feel confident to take to the road on a bike, or indeed are able to. Bus journeys will become slower and more congested. All these road closures will achieve is making the traffic far far worse and very few will benefit. Most of the closures make absolutely no sense at all and have pushed traffic to a couple of main roads. I understand wanting to promote cycling, reduce pollution from cars, but the level they are taking it to is ridiculous and is of no benefit to people. They do not result in more people cycling. Not everyone can or wants to cycle, and if they are trying to force people onto public transport how does that align with the social distancing challenges of public transport if more people have to use it! It is disgusting what they are doing and it should not be allowed". (S.I.)

"Thank you for the time you are putting into this campaign. I could not get into the zoom. Point I wanted to make was how badly this scheme has been introduced. On the first morning of the restrictions being installed in Upwood Road Lee, I questioned two police officers why I could not drive through? they had no idea seems they were confused as I was. Ludicrous as the scheme is surely local police should be aware. I also find no democracy in Lewisham Council being able to determine my use of car tax by which roads it applies to for through access. I would use you a cycle but with long term/chronic lower back disc problems and an OAP i find it difficult as is paying the road tax with now limited use. Many thanks for the excellent work on this matter". ((R.E.)

"I am writing from a Registered Nurse clinical nurse specialist point of view who has to do home visits for patients who live in this exact area. The heavily congested A20, A205 etc already mean that traffic hardly moves, traffic is less at present due to summer holidays & school children not at tending school until next week. When they do go back to school the roads that are mostly at standstill will be worse when that traffic is added. This is without mentioning the utilities who are constantly digging up these very roads - reeking even more havoc with the traffic & I am sure impacting on the air pollution the council say they are wanting to mitigate. Then there is no other way of traffic to move.. if god forbid.. there was a traffic accident that closes the road for around 6-8 hrs at best, where is the traffic supposed to go then. How are the

emergency services supposed to move about Lewisham with these limitations. How about common sense being used & school children either using their legs to walk to school or being dropped close to school at a pre-determined safe place rather than one 4x4 vehicle taking 1 child to school with parent trying to drop said child (who apparently can't walk) right outside its school?? Irritated professional trying to do her job.!(K.R.)

“What’s going on it's bad enough around these areas with continued road works without the closures of roads. Whoever makes these decisions must be a non car user”. (B.H.)

“I am writing to object to the road closures and restrictions in the Lee/ Lewisham/ Catford areas of Lewisham. It affects my son travelling to work every day in Catford from the A2 and my daughter in law teaching at a school in Lee. The closures double their journey times and just sitting in traffic on the main roads left open makes for a very unpleasant and frustrating start and finish to the day. The congestion has affected me trying to take my Grandson to a hospital appointment making me very upset and anxious as I sat in traffic - inching forwards in a jam as the appointment time came and went with no way of escaping down a side road. The pollution of traffic fumes must be detrimental to health and certainly the anger and road rage building up with the traffic is extremely mentally damaging every day in what used to be a manageable journey to work, schools and the hospital. Please will you restore Lewisham roads to normal as soon as possible and certainly before the extra traffic expected with the beginning of the school term. It is horrendous now on the roads in this area and takes any pleasure out of driving for work or leisure. Such a shame to ruin the travelling experience for a thin excuse of COVID-19”. (M.S.)

“As a former carer of my very unwell mother, I know first-hand about traffic journeys throughout London. My late Mum would be in an NHS transport ambulance for hours on a normal day, I cannot begin to imagine how horrendous this is going to be for the elderly/disabled who have to go to clinics in main London hospitals now this has been put into play. This sham is happening all over the boroughs of Lewisham and Greenwich. It is supposed to be for people to walk safely for social distancing, it's supposed to be a trial, it's supposed to be to lower emissions!!! Well, it's an absolute joke, they want us to travel on TFL's shambles of public transport, which I will add is very costly and unreliable but that's what they want... more money as, they are greedy! How would stopping cars going down side streets affect walkers and their social distancing? It's supposed to be a trial but, why is no one in the areas being listened to/ why can't we oppose this? This shambles is doing more harm to the environment as there will be more emissions with sitting cars and longer journey times. TFL will not be reducing fares, they will not be adding more trains to their tracks so why should we put up with this money grabbing scheme. My partner carries out emergency works; this is going to be an absolute nightmare for him, it already is when he has to go through Lee and Lewisham! It is absolutely ridiculous. Every forum I have been through regarding this, the residents are opposing it except the odd few that are for saving the planet but flying on planes and driving their children to school etc! Hypocrites! I'm happy to take the cameras down in anger at

Sadiq Khan and his nonsense. I hope he isn't re-elected! I bet he hasn't got this crap going up where him and his cronies live! They are ignorant!" (M.M.)

"The road closures in Manor Lane are ridiculous. I have elderly parents living in Milborough Crescent and I live near Grove Park. If I go and visit and they need some shopping and am talking bottles of water and larger items so I go in the car to Lee Green Sainsbury's. I have to go up to St Mildred Road (a very busy Road) down Burnt Ash to Lee Green and then the journey again in reverse and not too long ago this took me over half an hour to get to my parents house from Sainsbury's". (D.M.)

"I am disabled and the road closures would have a detrimental impact on my freedom of movement. Drivers pay road tax so we can drive to places that we need to. We also pay for car fuel and these proposed diversions will add to the cost (and additional use) of our cars and in turn increase the foot print of drivers. People have a right to choose if they wish to walk (where able) or if they want to drive. There are numerous reasons why we choose to drive and there is also the number of people who also benefit from those with cars with journeys which would not be possible/practical without cars. I strongly object to the road closure proposals and feel that car drivers, especially disabled car drivers are being discriminated against in these plans. I hope these plans will be reconsidered and looked at a bit more sympathetically to drivers who need to use their cars". (D.G.)

"I have received your leaflet about road closures and agree with your protest. These closures do nothing for cycling and walking - I have seen barely any cyclists using the affected roads and no more walkers than usual. They merely create delays and confusion for motorists". (D.S.)

As I live in the London Borough of Lewisham, I am well used to the Council's long-standing anti car policies, particularly the proliferation of road humps throughout the Borough. These humps must cause an enormous amount of additional pollution, as cars slow down and speed up on roads where they are used. Cars regularly veer all over the carriageway in order to drive over the centre of the humps and this in itself must pose additional risk. It would be interesting to know how much these humps have cost local taxpayers and by how much they have improved Lewisham's road safety.

"I am emailing as I am appalled at the sudden road closures that have put in place in Lewisham in particular and also surrounding boroughs. This has not lessened pollution but has diverted traffic onto other roads causing these roads to be very heavily congested and the air pollution is awful where this has happened. The closures were carried out under the lock down during the start of the Covid pandemic and no prior notification or consultation was given. This has added 30 minutes to my commute to work and I am unable to take public transport that will not shorten my journey or cycle. This needs to be addressed as the current situation cannot continue as it is not effective and has adversely caused more problems than it has solved to not just commuters local businesses and residents". (H.B.)

"Hi please can you send me more information about the proposed Lewisham road closures. They are ridiculous and dangerous". (L.C.)

"I object to the unjustified and undemocratic move by Lewisham Councillors to the closing of roads in the Borough, which are causing unnecessary traffic jams and delays. Please remove the road blocks immediately as with schools opening after lockdown there will be chaos!!". (C.M.)

"I strongly object to what the local authorities are imposing on drivers, it's always drivers who suffer at the hands of those who don't have a clue and using this to drain money out of drivers. Pushing all traffic on the main roads is going to have a significant impact and it's happening already especially around Lewisham which I witnessed on Friday (21st Aug) and it's only going to get worse when the children go back to school". (E.S.)

"I would like to join you in objecting to the road closures in Lewisham. They are causing virtual gridlock on the South Circular Road". (G.R.)

"We would like to object to the Lewisham Road Closures, which have caused an increase in traffic queues on the South Circular and surrounding areas. It has lengthened all of our journey times. It has not increased our ability to walk or cycle in our local area and I cannot see how this helps to reduce COVID". (K.J.)

"I have lived in the area for over 40 years and cannot understand the thinking behind the road closures in Lewisham. This will cause more traffic jams and air pollution. Once schools return in two weeks time the full effect of these closures will no doubt be seen". (J.H.)

"The road restrictions in Lewisham are giving my son severe delays going to work. By public transport his journey would involve 3 buses and a half mile walk. He has his own tools and these are too heavy to carry. He has to take his car for the tools. These closures, need much more thought and planning". (C.C.)

"Lee Green isn't the only area infected with the deadly thought virus of looney eco left anti car fascism. Omni-shambles Miliband is omnipresent via an eco-socialist think tank to promote this madness. I always thought that XR were the opening bombardment to soften the electorate to some unworkable idea". (M.K.)

"I am concerned at all the road closures in the Lewisham borough. Being a disabled driver, I need my car to get around. The amount of side roads being closed is making all the main roads gridlocked, not to mention more pollution". (S.F.)

"Thank you for the leaflet concerning local road closures in the borough of Lewisham. As both a cyclist and driver, I'm not convinced that this is a good idea". (P.M.)

"I live on St Mildreds Road and am massively impacted by the road closures going on around us. I agree that the council took absolutely no notice of residents who objected to the closures". (D.W.)

"The introduction of these changes has caused chaos in the area". (F.N.)

"I strongly object to the undemocratic road closures in Lewisham. This is blatant discrimination against drivers that contribute hugely to the economy by buying cars and petrol, pay car tax and mot which keep a lot of people in employment. The

mayor claims that the borough has more people that do not have a car but he forgets that the people that put him there are drivers as well. I wonder if he has scrapped the car he gets as a perk of office". (P.R.)

"Having witnessed first-hand the gridlock yesterday caused by an accident on the corner of Burnt Ash Hill I am even more concerned about the chaos these road closures will bring. I am afraid that the greater volume in traffic will result in more traffic accidents and fatalities. I have never known such ridiculous proposals as these .The council members whose brainchild this is clearly do not live in the affected area and have no clue of the consequent disasters waiting to happen as a result of their short-sighted decision". (J.S.)

"I work in Lewisham, and have been a Lewisham resident for many years, and the road closures apparently due to covid-19 in the borough are completely ridiculous. Firstly, even with most people still off work, the congestion now on the main roads is unbearable, with my commuting time almost tripling. I also am not seeing any evidence that these measures have actually encouraged people to use these roads more by pedestrians/cyclists etc. I work for a domiciliary care company, and we send care workers out to people's homes. These road closures have also made the job of a care worker travelling around the borough almost impossible. Please kindly advise what I can do to object to these road closures". (K.W.)

"Please send me more info on this undemocratic and ludicrous scheme. I obviously would like to object!!" (J.S.)

"It was obvious that something needed to be done to calm traffic cutting through roads not designed for heavy use. However, the measure now being put in place has already increased volume on main road which adds to the time it now takes residents to get to hospital and the local health centre and the shops. Increasing the pollution created by traffic stuck in the jams for longer. The ten minute journey to get my husband to his appointment last week, took 30 minutes" (G.B.)

"I am absolutely disgusted with these road closures. It is definitely going to affect emergency vehicles and cause more traffic jams. It is already happening in Lee. I agree it is going to affect the elderly and disabled and I just cannot see the point in closing these roads which will effect bus routes too. Please send me more details of these road closures and how I can object. So that I can hopefully help in stopping these road closures and opening up the ones they have already closed". (E.R.)

"Yesterday, there was a traffic incident in Burnt Ash Hill, Lee SE12. I do hope that no-one was injured in the incident. However, this incident has shown how your recent road closures in the area have huge implications when such incidents occur and the resulting traffic in the area following this was horrendous. I have read with interest your reasons for these closures and I am not sure that they are all correct. I, personally, travel to work in Lee High Road from Chislehurst every day and, being disabled, public transport is not an option for me. I know all the back streets in the area and I most certainly not call them rat runs – they have humps, width restrictions and are narrow in many places. For these reasons, I only ever choose to use these side roads if traffic on the main roads is at a standstill, as was the case yesterday.

You have certainly been effective in ensuring that there was absolutely no way that the traffic yesterday could filter off or find alternative routes – every single vehicle had to turn around which ensured that chaos reigned! Moreover, my 20 minute journey took nearly 1 hour during which time I imagine a fair amount of emissions were produced in the area when multiplied by the amount of vehicles involved! Come on, Lewisham, give us all a break and rethink your actions in the area – I dread to think what the situation will be like when the schools re-open. Also, please bear in mind that we motorists are not all lazy, non-green road hogs tearing down side streets at 90mph in gas guzzling old banger (as seems to be the inference) – we are merely trying to get to work or other in a reasoned orderly manner”. (M.B.)

“I live just off Burnt Ash Hill and all of these road closures are adding approx. 30 to 40 minutes to short journeys. I am disabled and use black cabs so they are always late and so am I, and that is just for doctors’ appointments. Trying to get to hospital appointments on time means leaving at least an hour earlier, what with the closures in Hither Green as well. So I along with many others object to these closures being made permanent. Maybe planners from the council can take a journey and sit in traffic on the main routes or ride your bike or walk through the extra pollution on the main drag. NOT EVERYONE CAN RIDE A BIKE AND WALK”. (G.H.)

“I received your leaflet through the post and I just have to say that Lewisham Council are systematically making life difficult for working class people. They have shut roads predominantly around neighbours with expensive properties and forcing traffic onto the A205 South Circular where mainly poorer people live. Furthermore, the amount of premature deaths due to cars and lorries sitting in traffic causing pollution which will arise around the A205 through Catford will soar as quite simply the traffic can't flow. The A205 is one of the main artery roads leading into London and by shutting the local roads people who live in the area can't get around freely. If we need to sign a petition you have my vote”. (H.K.)

“It has been reported to all and sundry, even the Sunday Telegraph bothered to talk to the College of Paramedics and had a decent reply, not so from the ambulance service. Does anyone anywhere give a stuff about ambulance delays, the cost to patients, the cost to those working in the service, the worry to the rest of us? And why did councillors and Lewisham council officers promise our emergency services would not be affected by road closures, when it is clear proper precautions were not taken, and warnings from the public, over a year, were ignored. It is tantamount to negligence and disregard of public safety”. (P.R.)

“I would like to object most strongly to the road closures in the Borough of Lewisham, the consequences of which were seen today with the accident at the junction with the South Circular and Burnt Ash Hill - Absolute chaos, causing grid lock and of course resulting air pollution. Whoever thought these closures were a good idea - I bet they don't live in the area!” (C.T.)

“Thanks for sending this information out to everybody, I'm so glad you have done this. I'm a gas engineer and these road closures will impact my travel times between jobs as well as my journeys to and from home to work. This will in turn impact my

income as I will have less time to earn on jobs as I don't get paid for driving. I would love to know more about how to object to these closures". (S.R.)

"I strongly object to the road closures in Lewisham. This is causing far more congestion on the A205 and other major routes. I live just off Westhorne Ave and alongside the congestion this is causing a lot more pollution and noise. I am a COPD sufferer. There was a major accident at the lights of the Burnt Ash Hill junction closing the road towards Lee Station. Because of the road closures it was very difficult to find an alternative route to get to Sainsbury's at Lee Green". (R.F.)

"I am concerned about the road closure happening in the Lewisham borough using COVID-19 epidemic as the reasoning for this. As we have not had any kind of consultation these measures should only be temporary and I would like to add my concerns/objections. The signs you have put in place as temporary do not give this impression of being temporary as adding cameras indicate that there will be a fine for drivers and increasing the individuals travel time to get to the same place. As budgets are being reduced this would result in LBL keeping this and using it to increase revenue on a yearly basis from drivers within the area". (G.G.)

"It must be emphasised that today's accident could potentially have been far worse. What are they waiting for - some sort of Grenfell Tower Type of incident where due to road closures the emergency services could not get to the disaster scene in time. The repercussions of something like that would last a lifetime. It wasn't funny before but now it's absolute carnage waiting to happen". (P.B.)

"I suddenly found myself trapped by the road closures on the way to hospital yesterday and today I found your leaflet in my mail box. A 15 min journey took 40min because of traffic jams on the only roads still open! I'd love to get more information and also to find out how on earth this aids "social distancing" as many signs on the closures and bus gates informed me! I live locally and was totally unaware of these changes". (M.M.)

"I want to strongly object to the current road closures that have suddenly been erected in the borough of Lewisham without a single communication or consultation with the residents of Lewisham who pay council tax so should have a say in what happens in the borough. The council of Lewisham apparently are saying that it's to do with COVID-19 and that the road closures are temporary. If that's the case why NOT consult with the residents of the borough of Lewisham. People are still working from home and schools are on summer holidays but you couldn't tell judging by the traffic on Burnt Ash Hill and the surrounding areas, because all the road closures has pushed the traffic in an already extremely busy area, I know once the schools re-open and more people go back to work it's going to be a NIGHTMARE". (J.B.)

"Thank God for your organisation taking action on the ridiculous closures throughout Lewisham borough. Please let me know what help you need from me to prevent the closures currently in place". (K.C.)

"Stop the road closures in Lewisham that block so many of the crucial side routes that drivers need in order to move around in London. It's a totally bad joke, dreamed

up by one of Lewisham's brilliant 'blue-sky' thinkers. Complete idiots. Fire the lot of them and make them do delivery jobs in our local area as an act of penance". (M.C.)

"Closing the roads in the Lewisham area is creating more traffic congestion which in turn is creating more pollution together with the max 20 mile an hour speed limits. 20 miles an hour limits at the school gates is required but elsewhere is unacceptable as are the road closures. Together they are creating more pollution and stress to the people of Lewisham". (J.D.)

"I strongly object to these road closures. Also to the council completely ignoring the views of local residents, and with no proper public consultation, or explanation". (C.S.)

"I object to the proposal of closing roads in Lewisham. In my opinion, there's no correlation between road closures and people catching Covid-19 or not. Pavements are safe as they currently are and narrowing roads will not stop the spread of the virus but rather people being hygienic. Besides, the government has advised against the use of public transport as much as possible so road closures opposes government directives or makes it ineffective". (J.A.)

"Please stop these roads closures before something serious happens, it is not preventing pollution, it's adding to it". (W.Y.)

"I wish to complain about the recent road closures around the Lee area. We live in Baring Road, so are regularly using these roads daily and I can tell you that since these road closures, sitting in major traffic jams on main roads like the South Circular is no joke. You can't tell me that this is saving the environment and causing less air pollution. It's causing MORE!! Queues of traffic on the main roads are making it take twice as long to get to your destinations plus the vehicles are doing more mileage using more fuel! This is not helping the quality of the air, It's making it worse. Consider buses, emergency vehicles etc. Also, to put cameras on certain junctions makes me believe that this is also a money-making exercise. Clearly this is a bad idea and should be stopped at once! I strongly OBJECT to these and future road closures and DO NOT want them to become permanent". (J.R.)

"I live in Lee, SE16 and commute daily to Beckton E6 where I have worked for the last 5 years. Usually I commute on a motorcycle. Over the last week or so the commute has become very difficult. This seems to be as a direct result of major road closures throughout Lee & Blackheath, at the behest of Lewisham council for "environmental" reasons and to make roads safe for cyclists. In my humble opinion this has not only create more congestion (and pollution from stationary vehicles) but made the major roads more dangerous for all 2 wheeled users. Who put this in place without any consultation with residents? The sheer arrogance of Lewisham Councils at times is breath-taking". (D.L.)

"Please see a copy of my email to my Local MP, Lewisham Council and Mayor Sadiq Khan regarding the road closures in the Lewisham area. To date not one has acknowledged receipt of this correspondence (other than automatically generated emails) let alone addressed the issue, This despite my following up two weeks ago. It may be pure coincidence that all the road closures are adjacent to streets where

the ULEZ charge data will be collected in October 2021. What do you think? All I know is that traffic congestion is at an all time high on the south circular road around the Burnt Ash Hill junction and is leading to serious issues on Baring Rd and surrounding streets. I'm sure I would be supportive of any pressure you could bring to bear on the local politicians". (D.L.)

"Yes - I do wish to protest strongly regarding these closures. Going to Lewisham Shopping Centre now a problem. Takes twice as long as before. I now prefer going to the Charlton shopping area rather than Lewisham". (D.M.)

"I object to some of the road closures in Lewisham, particularly those that cause gridlock on the South circular during rush hour. Brownhill rd and Westthorne ave can be a nightmare for drivers with very long journey times. We are not happy taking public transport as wearing masks are not enforced on the buses. Too many people get on the bus/train without one or use them as chin hammocks. My husband has severe underlying conditions that put him at grave risk. The much longer journey times causes us great anxiety and will lead to mental health issues for my husband if the temporary road closures became permanent. And what about greatly increased pollution on those roads for children and pedestrians who don't drive??The elderly and disabled myself included". (P.C.)

"I live on St Mildreds Road (A205) and the traffic since the road closures has increased considerably and is nearly always queued for the lights past my house. This only used to happen during the rush hour but now it is virtually all the time. The congestion at the junction of Burnt Ash / Baring Road / St Mildreds queues from whichever way it is approached. Equally the increase in congestion at the Lee Green and A20 / Kidbrooke Park Road lights is a problem. With the increase in traffic the pollution levels must have increased but despite being raised at a consultation meeting there is no recording of the pollution levels in the area (the nearest is Catford) so there is no means to assess pollution levels. I have failed to see how the road closures that have been made can be justified on the grounds of COVID 19 or for that matter safety. I asked at the consultation meeting for data on how many accidents there had been on the roads around Manor Lane but none were available. I have lived in the area for nearly 30 years and have seen no increase in the amount of traffic using it as a cut through, even in the rush hour. The traffic on Manor Road is and never has been busy and I fail to see how any pollution levels can be higher than those on St Mildreds Road. I hope that these comments are useful". (G.C.)

"The chaos, traffic jams and pollution caused by these road closures instigated without consultation by councillors of obvious limited intellect and absolutely no knowledge of urban traffic flow is unbelievable". (D.C)

"I would like to support this petition and action. Congestion already on busy roads increase pollution by idling in traffic. There needs to be easier movement on roads to increase productivity to help the economy. At this time it's not a sensible use of council tax payers money or any funds to waste on blocking roads". (R.C.)

“Please send me information on how to object to this ludicrously ridiculous plant pot road closures that are messing up everything in this area to the point of needing to move to hold down a job and have my children educated at the same time”. (D.H.)

“These new road limitations will make traffic much worse, as can already be seen. I think they are trying to force drivers off the roads”. (R.T.)

“I object in the strongest possible terms to the road closures in Lee, Lewisham, disguised by those morons at the Council as somehow benefiting the fight against the Covid 19 pandemic. The list of valid reasons why it is an insane idea are obvious - increased traffic on major routes, travelling times tripled, pollution levels through the roof etc etc - BUT has anyone at LBL put forward a single valid, verifiable and truthful explanation as to just how this benefits everyone who lives in the borough and needs to use a motor vehicle”. (A.C.)

“I’m appalled at all the road closures in Lewisham. George Lane, Cambridge Drive, Manor Park and several other roads have been closed without public consultation. These road closures are causing a build-up of traffic on the surrounding roads, resulting in more traffic fumes. This extra traffic congestion is causing air pollution in these areas. Our children are due to return to school in September. Children, parents and cares will be exposed to more air pollution due to traffic build up. Air pollution is dangerous to our health. Lewisham, you must STOP these road closures now”. (E.L.)

“Received a leaflet about road closures. I live in Lee and drive and the road closures are a nightmare. Yes I do object, please tell me more”. (S.D.)

“I write to you informing you that as a driver and resident of St Mildreds Road, I strongly object to the closure of Manor Lane and surrounding roads. It is increasing the traffic with more fumes on the main road - a nuisance as we all have to join one road through the area. Let me know how to air my objections further as I stand with you”. (Y.L.)

“My rear garden backs onto the South Circular Road (A205) and I notice that for the best part of the day including weekends the traffic in a westerly direction is at a standstill which must increase air pollution and also noise pollution as the emergency vehicles have to blare their sirens in order to weave between the stationary traffic. This road closure scheme has been a disaster for everybody except the selfish few”. (M.T.)

“I vigorously object to the ridiculous road closures that are being imposed by Lewisham Council and without proper and meaningful consultation with residents. Far from easing traffic congestion the measures will create more traffic congestion, lengthen road journeys, disadvantage many already disadvantaged groups and could seriously hinder emergency vehicles from promptly reaching their destination. The measures will also increase air pollution as greater levels of congestion will result from the extensive road closures. The Councils constant reference to Covid 19 as a justification for their ill thought out measures is nonsense and an insult to the many people who are truly working hard to tackle this horrendous virus”. (C.R.)

"I have recently become aware of a number of road closures that Lewisham are bringing in, in the Lee area. I have had no notification regarding these closures and as far as I am aware there has been no consultation with near residents. These closures will increase congestion and lead to more pollution caused by stationary queuing traffic. The added burden on already congested alternative routes will give real meaning to the term 'gridlock'. Far from encouraging people to use alternative modes of transport, these closures will inconvenience many people, especially those who are unable to cycle or walk - whilst delays to buses (through increased congestion) will be increased to an unacceptable degree. Lewisham needs to consider the wider needs of ALL residents with appropriate consultation, and look again at whether these closures are actually required". (C.S.)

"I am against road closures in Lewisham. Thank you for taking up this cause. First it was humps everywhere, then 20mph and now this. Enough is enough". (T.L.)

"We object strongly to the proposals closing many roads in my area of Lewisham. Already it is causing huge congestion on all major roads and making life miserable. PLEASE STOP THESE ROAD CLOSURES!!!!". (A.G.)

"I strongly object to recent road closures in the Lewisham area. Last week I had to take my partner to Lewisham Hospital for an early morning appointment. Knowing the south circular road into Catford has been badly obstructed I chose to find another route. I know all the side roads very well, but was very exasperated to find so many roads closed. I hope that the protest against the closures has the desired effect to have them re-opened". (B.S.)

"Having received your leaflet, I would very much like to object to any current and further road closures in Lewisham. I live on Baring Rd which, as you know is part of the A2212 and have already noticed an increase in traffic and speeds as drivers become more frustrated. Please therefore send me information as to how I can object to this ridiculous scheme that Lewisham council has seen fit to put into operation". (M.C.)

"Hi I am writing to register my objection to all the road closures in Lewisham. There appears to be no reason for these closures and I do not accept that they are closed due to Covid; certainly the roads that I am aware of are completely empty of pedestrians 99% of the time. Manor Lane is a major artery and it is completely unacceptable to close this road in particular. They may as well close the South Circular. The road closures will definitely create more traffic and seem to be very anti-car. I would like to see the roads reopened asap". (M.W.)

"I am joining in the complaints about Lewisham Council's road closure scheme. In my opinion it is totally unacceptable and stupidity in the extreme. Anyone with any sense knows that keeping all traffic on the Main Roads only will increase the pollution even more because the traffic can't flow due to the tail backs that it causes. Grove Park Station road was horrendous for many months last year while Lewisham Council were working on widening the pavements etc. It was finally finished and worked well but now 6 months later it is a complete chaos again - because they are digging it up again - it's about time this nonsense was stopped". (S.F.)

"I am writing to object to road closures in and around Lee/Lewisham. I cannot believe you are using Covid-19 as the reason behind this. Can you explain how closing certain roads will stop the spread of the virus? I've never heard such rubbish in all my life!! I thought Lewisham wanted to lower pollution not increase it. Now cars are queuing up on Lee High Rd, Burnt Ash Rd and the already very busy South Circular creating even more pollution. Maybe some of the borough's councillors live on the roads that have been closed off and wanted to stop traffic driving down them? Whatever the reasons, it has created extra congestion and means journey times have more than doubled. I don't even want to think about how bad it will be when the schools are back in September! This whole thing is nothing but madness". (C.D.)

"I have been considerably affected by recent incomprehensible road closures in Lewisham. The effect seems to have caused increased traffic congestion and doubled the length and time of journeys". (S.S.)

"I strongly object to the road closures that are happening in Lewisham at present. They are pushing traffic onto already congested roads and causing more pollution which is very bad for me as I have severe COPD". (H.S.)

"Please advise as to how we stop this madness. Reasonable Traffic levels and quick access for emergency services has been compromised". (A.B.)

"I seriously object to these road closures. I have lived at the junction of Senlac Road and Exford Road for thirty one years and it has become increasingly busier and noisier as it is used as a cut through during rush hour and throughout the day. This is fair enough as the volume of cars on the road have rocketed over the years. However it's unfair to force traffic onto other roads by using road closures, it just impacts on other residents elsewhere and as a result of these recent road closures, both Senlac and Exford Roads' volume of traffic has doubled at least, as motorists are finding alternative cut through routes. Recently I drove to my pharmacy in Lee and my return journey took me 25 minutes instead of the usual ten as traffic was forced onto Burnt Ash Hill and the tailback was huge in both directions! I would be overjoyed if my road was also closed as it would be much quieter and cleaner but that would impact on other residents in the area and increase motorists journey times. Would that be fair? Traffic volumes will continue to increase and it's a situation we have to live with if we are to continue to live in built up areas and be car users. However Lewisham Council do as they please and will continue to do so without any consideration of the impact on its residents. Just look at Lewisham and Grove Park Road systems, they are a joke! Forcing traffic elsewhere is not the answer; some residents will benefit greatly and some will suffer increased pollution, noise etc., which is unfair. People on the whole choose where they live and choose to own and drive cars. If it becomes unacceptable then move!). (S.A.)

"Received a leaflet about road closures. I live in Lee and drive and the road closures are a nightmare. Yes I do object". (S.D.)

"Appalling planning. Merely adds to pollution/traffic jams/journey lengths. Needs full consultation as this will undoubtedly spread to many areas". (S.H.)

“Living directly on the A205 we've been experiencing a heavy traffic jam for most of the day, every day. I can't even imagine how much air pollution my family and I must inhale, especially on hot days when having the windows open is necessary. Also, it takes an unpredictable, long time to get into our driveway. Therefore, my family and I strongly object against road closures mentioned in the leaflet received through the door”. (A.F.)

“Please include my name in your protest. This must go down as one of the most insane ideas of Lewisham Council and Sadiq Khan”. (L.A.)

“I live near the South Circular in Catford. Over many years the volume of traffic on this road has increased a great deal especially at peak times. However over the past weeks the idling traffic has been almost stationary - sometimes from Central Catford to Burnt Ash Hill. I am not sure if this is due to the increased car usage due to anxiety about public transport usage or the local road closures. The road closures have made it impossible to use local businesses and doctors and soon the schools without adding to the congestion on the main roads. Buses are stationary for long periods. Walking is not always an option. Prior to the closures the local roads were not ever congested apart from school times. The measures will not decrease air pollution as this is exacerbated by idling traffic and the so-called cleaner areas will be affected as badly as those living nearer the south Circular in areas less affluent than Lee village. I understand that this is a London wide problem, but these measures have made it VERY much worse for all road users in this area”. (D.D.)

“How can a virus dictate the closure of roads? What's really behind this other than more control over the people? A definite no to these road closures, which would cause congestion and mayhem”. (R.L.)

“I strongly object to the new road closures around the Manor Park area. I care for my sick, disabled and elderly brother and have no option other than driving to take him out. A daily visit to the tranquil Manor Park Gardens is no longer a 5 minute drive. It can take 30 minutes in the now heavy traffic on the main roads. I am creating far more pollution than I used to. The result is that we no longer have that daily outing and it is sorely missed. I also no longer shop at Sainsbury's in Lee Green - the extra traffic on the main road increases the journey from 10 minutes to 30 mins on a good day. I now drive to the branch at Sydenham as it is quicker. Why do I have to endure this inconvenience? Yes, we would love to be able to cycle or walk around the borough but for the elderly and disabled this is sadly not an option. I implore the council to reverse these road closures”. (D.W.)

“I am writing to strongly object to the latest plans. Your ‘consultation’ states that the A21 is ‘a busy corridor for traffic’. Your solution - to make it even busier! You do realise that this is the main access route to Lewisham hospital and also serves the local fire station. The increased congestion and car journey times will heighten air pollution in these localities, and if there is a traffic incident, will cause traffic to back up and prevent emergency services access. It is insulting to our intelligence that these changes are necessary as a result of Covid-19. Such changes in other locations have already caused havoc (of which I have been a victim). You are killing London and dividing local communities. Soon London will be just one big cycling

track. There will be no businesses left as you are making it far too difficult to get around to patronise them unless you can cycle or live within walking distance (try walking with a trolley load's worth of shopping bags and a couple of toddlers at your heels), or are prepared to take your chances on public transport (where masks are not enforced). Don't you think we have suffered enough? Just like Brexit, the silent majority will not forget this at the next round of elections...." (L.A.)

"The situation we now find ourselves in regarding the road closures is ridiculous. We are now getting off-peak traffic backing up down Springbank road as more traffic is guided onto the south circular. To my knowledge, there has not been a particular issue with traffic rat runs as the pervasiveness of sleeping policemen attest. I hate to imagine what the traffic will look like in a years' time if these changes are made permanent. No doubt this is also linked to gentrifying the area for the few and the new who have recently moved in, so that the many suffer. Covid-19 is just a handy handle to hang these changes on. I hope, but doubt Lewisham council will come to their senses and reconsider this ill-advised scheme. There is nothing wrong with being aspirational but this is a step in the wrong direction". (L.D.)

"I am worried about road closures in Bellingham. We've lived here for over 33 years and we haven't had any consultation about what is going on. I work in Kent outside the M25 and the extra traffic caused by the Hither Green and Lee closures has added almost 10 minutes onto my journey to work, and I work nights! The extra pollution being funnelled into such a small area is horrendous. You cannot walk around the main roads without almost choking to death now". (J.W.)

"I would like to object to the Lewisham Road Closures. I do not drive very often but the few times I have recently it has been a nightmare with a build of traffic everywhere and have spent so long just sitting idling. All my usual ways of getting somewhere are blocked so I have had to search for other ways to reach my destination. It's a complete nightmare. It is not possible to walk/cycle everywhere and not everyone is able to. I think it's disgusting they are closing these roads and leaving a lot of people unable to get to places easily". (K.G.)

"This household in Crantock road object to proposals to close roads in Lewisham. This is absolutely absurd and covid-19 is just an excuse!!! It has nothing to do with road closures!!!!" (D.C.)

"I wrote to the council and received a nonsense letter about Covid19 and people walking and exercising! We have plenty of green space for this in the borough". (P.A.)

"I got your leaflet and am glad someone is taking action. It is a disgrace that the council can arbitrarily close roads, that we the tax payers own, without any consultation to the residents of the borough. I walk and cycle regularly and I also drive. I shop by bicycle too but am currently suffering from a hernia and am unable to carry heavy shopping without the aid of the car. It hugely disadvantages those with health or mobility issues. It creates huge amounts of extra traffic pollution with the resulting grid lock. It smacks of nimbyism where the wealthiest enclaves of the area are gifted safer streets but the rest of us must suffer long delays. We all pay for the

amenity that these roads provide and we all wish to use them. It is an even greater affront at the current time of Covid 19 crisis when many have to rely on vehicles to get to work". (C.M.)

"I live on Brownhill Road which now has traffic at a standstill the whole day and evening. What about the 1000's of us breathing that polluted air in so our posh neighbours in Hither Green can cycle and breath clean air!!!!!!" (S.G.)

"It is ridiculous what the council has done with the roads - made the south circular even worse and also the road blockages affecting the local shops. Please remove these asap. (M.C.)

"Having used many of the roads listed for closure, along with others over the past 35 years without a problem, I find Lewisham Council's plans unacceptable. I agree that the said closures will add to traffic congestion and air pollution on an unprecedented scale". (J.B.)

"I am absolutely livid. A journey to my mums by Lewisham Hospital is taking me three times as long since the road closures. All it has done is make the congestion and pollution worse on the main roads. Am absolutely dreading the commute for me to teach in September. Every trip is terrible and once the children return and adults return back this will be a total logistical nightmare". (S.H.)

"What in earth have you done to our local roads, pushing traffic on to the south circular to be charged. This is nothing to do with cleaner air as all that you have done is caused drivers to use other local roads which have now become increasingly dangerous by frustrated drivers. I live on Killlearn Rd which is relatively quiet but now we have vans having face offs as neither will give way on the narrow roads. Before you say that roads in Hither green like Staplehurst rd have cleaner air, yes they may have a quieter and cleaner road but now try getting on to Torridon Rd, Sandhurst Rd, Verdant Lane, etc no cleaner air. 3 primary schools now being affected, Torridon Primary and Sandhurst and Holy Cross primary. What about the wider community? All that has happened is the traffic has been pushed elsewhere, oh yes onto roads where drivers are going to be charged. This will not get people on mass on to bikes either, maybe a few foolish people but look at the amount of fatal bike riders in recent years. No way would anyone in their right mind take to a bike with all these frustrated angry drivers. Even without angry drivers you would take your life in your hands to take to a bike. Well done Mr Mayor and LB Lewisham, sitting in your counting houses counting out the fines money that will start rolling in. I'm wondering is it being considered a fair trade off for a few more bike fatalities versus income from fines, i so hope not. A very concerned resident". (W.M.)

"Myself and my father reside in Ardgowan Rd and we strongly object to any proposals from Lewisham Council and councillors to put in place these road closures with minimum public consultation". (M.A.)

"I am writing regarding the road closure scheme. I am a driver and a cyclist. I strongly believe that the scheme is not helping either the traffic or the pollution, on the contrary it makes it worse. It is also a great disadvantage for people with poor mobility". (C.K.)

“These road closures have made life better for the few but unbearable for the majority with long queues of traffic putting out fumes causing more environmental damage”. (F.J.)

“I totally disagree with the road closures that Lewisham Council have installed in the Lee Green/Hither Green areas. My wife is disabled and requires regular doctor visits; these closures have increased our journey time from 5 minutes to almost half an hour. These closures should not take place”. (R.J.)

“I voiced my own opinion to an arm of Lewisham council only 3 days ago - this is what I wrote:- Cannot believe how little Lewisham council thinks about genuine road users that are all pushed onto 1 or 2 main roads. These closures might be great from the very wealthy that live in the Lee Green estate in those nice million pound houses, but those on the outside of the estate are having to breath in more car fumes as they are having to sit stationary on a main road with their engines on. It seems that Lewisham are pandering to the wealthy and forgetting about the rest of us - the expression “I’m alright Jack, pull up the ladder” springs to mind. You call these roads rat runs - I refer to them as relief points where traffic can escape. I do really hope this “experiment” will finish soon or perhaps Lewisham council can build some more road routes so genuine road users can actually escape this torture! Re-open these roads in the Lee Green area to normal traffic !!!!!” (J.Y.)

“This is outrageous!! There has been no consultation at all!! Besides the closure of roads make no sense! Forcing people to go around the whole neighbourhood or into the main road just to go across a road. There is nothing to back up this unnecessary cost to the council funds. It has got nothing to do with containing the virus. As I said to my grandchildren, I live on a back road that is closed. I am registered disabled and all this just aggravates my condition. It just increases the journey I do to help out and see them. “(E.V.)

“Can you please advise how we can object to the Lewisham road closures. They are creating absolute chaos in and around our community”. (D.F.)

“I agree closing all these roads is dreadful and causing a build-up of traffic on other roads. Being disabled it makes it difficult to get to the doctor and shops most of the time. I am sat in traffic and find it most uncomfortable”. (J.J.)

“We would like to add our support to your campaign to reverse the actions taken by Lewisham Council to close roads in the area. We read your leaflet and fully support your view. We have seen, already, the added level of traffic on the south circular near Catford resulting in congestion, delays and, I am assuming, decreasing air quality in the area”. (A.H.)

“Many thanks for your leaflet which I received recently. I will be joining your organisation today in order that we all can have a say on what our money gets spent on. Having lived in the Hither Green/Catford area for over 40 years and a regular driver, I would think my opinion may be of some value. Unfortunately, Lewisham Council has not asked any TAX paying residents what they think should happen to reduce traffic in the area and have decided to close certain roads in the area and

blame it on COVID19. That is their biggest mistake, as COVID19 has been confirm as a Pandemic and not just based in Hither Green/Lewisham". (S.P.)

"I don't think it is fair because we as drivers, we pay road tax and I object to these proposals because closing the roads may cause me a lot of stress and consequently alter my Blood pressure since I take medication to regulate it. Since I drive and I use lateral roads to skip the traffic in main road especially when I am in a hurry to pick up my kids from school after work. I cannot walk because my work is far away from my house. Taking public transport is stressful special in this time of covid-19 and I can't wear a mask on the bus for long". (K.A.)

"These road closures are causing chaos already. All the A roads are heavily congested at the best of times and these further closures will add to everyone's driving time, road rage, accidents and more air pollution. This has to stop !!!" (S.I.)

"Thanks for all the good work you are doing on this. I am finding writing to the Mayor's office directly is having a wearing affect on them as they are bound by their procedure to send a personal reply – in addition to the automated response. I write twice a week with tales of how individual residents and businesses have been adversely affected". (G.P.)

"I had no idea the roads had been closed but found another route. It was annoying as there were no previous warnings. It is still not signposted to warn you that a particular road is closed. I do not believe it has anything to do with COVID 19; what is their reasoning for this? It's nonsense. They saw an opportunity to close roads and jumped on it". (R.G.)

"It is pretty sad, that roads in the London Borough of Lewisham are being closed in the name of convid-19. Most of these roads have been in place for over 3 decades and residents have greatly benefited from them to avoid the congestion on our major roads. There is absolutely no justification for all the closures. The government of today even advise that people should try to commute privately to avoid over congestion on our public transport in order to contain the virus. It seems Lewisham boroughs' decision is a direct contradiction to the central government and experts' advice. Is Lewisham borough helping the situation or making matters worse? In a few weeks our children will be back to school and will need commuting, how does this awful and backward looking decision help residents within our community? We urge the officials within the borough to re-open this roads immediately to help free up our community from heavy traffic, deadlocks and congestion on our major roads and adverse effects on our local roads vice versa. What type of leaders do we really have at this borough?" (M.E.)

"The road closures are causing severe delays with the knock-on effect of causing further harm to an already fractured environment. If it was designed to ease the flow of traffic it is/has had the opposite effect with traffic building up on alternative routes. Please reconsider the decision as the plans are not working" (R.H.)

"I would like to receive more information and how to object to the road closures above. We live in Nightingale Grove and it is causing severe disruption to our lives." (S.R.)

“Please can you send me any updates regarding the Lewisham Road closures that I am totally opposed to. I have been a resident in Lewisham for nearly 40 years and I am so frustrated with these changes that affect residents so drastically”. (V.H.)

“I live in SE13 and have been affected by the road closures near to my home, which have made journeys by road very difficult and time consuming. The closures have also increased the volume of traffic using our road as a cut through. Please let me know how I can make my objections to these road closures”. (H.G.)

“Please send me information on how to object. I am disgusted with the Lewisham Council works so far. The back log of traffic to the South Circular is causing pollution and it can only get worse once schools return”. (A.L.)

“The residents of Lewisham have been given a disservice and believe these unlawful road closures are no more than a means to force drivers onto main roads. Residents are being forced to drive three-quarters of a mile to access a road which is 2 minutes away from them. Schools are accessible only after driving out of the area and re-entering via a different street: hand-picked / selected by Lewisham. We are tax payers and also pay road tax, this is an unjust system implemented for no other reason than to force drivers into areas which will impose a ULEZ tax or some other unjust tax. Who owns the roads that they can simply set up cameras, block roads, divert drivers up 40 minutes away from their destination. People in Government are paid to do just that – GOVERN not DOMINATE and OPPRESS the very people who pay their wages. Please, think of the elderly, the disabled, parents dropping children to school. UNBLOCK THESE ROADS”. (J.W.)

“I am writing to outline my dismay and concern about these road closures, in side roads that lead off the South Circular in Catford e.g. George Lane, Manor Lane, Manor Park and the subsequent redirection of traffic onto Brownhill Road and St Mildred's Road. The South Circular is already heavily congested with cars, lorries and buses as people use this route to travel to Kent, through Blackwall Tunnel and into central London. With the closing of side roads that would normally filter into Brownhill Road and St Mildred's Road, all traffic is now forced to stay on these roads. Traffic is crawling bumper to bumper from morning until late evening 7 days per week. The emissions and pollution being discharged into the local area must logically have increased substantially. As a resident of Brownhill Road, I am well aware of the case of Ella Kissi-Deborah a 9 year old who lived in one of the roads off Brownhill Road and who suffered with severe Asthma exacerbated by the high levels of local pollution and subsequently died from an Asthma attack. I believe the residents on Brownhill Road have a right not to have their health and wellbeing affected negatively by these increased levels of pollution and the increased density of traffic which these new proposals have caused. On balance knowing the areas concerned where the road closures are occurring far more people are being negatively impacted by the displacement of traffic and I'm concerned that this approach is disproportionate. I am also concerned about the consultation process before these measures were put in place; the closures took many of us by surprise. I understand the driving force behind these measures was to create a healthier environment for residents. However, these measures have resulted in the opposite

effect where there are now a number of roads where traffic is no longer freely moving and therefore emitting higher levels of pollution. I propose that a public meeting is held with councillors and other key members of the community so that this issue can be resolved in a way that does not worsen local people's health and wellbeing". (S.M.)

"Please stop the Road Closures. We the residents of Lewisham feel we have been badly affected by the unfair process of these road closures and we urge you to STOP. We the residents ask for a full public consultation to allow our voice to be heard! These road closures will have a knock on affect now and in years to come and will subsequently affect the elderly, the disabled, the emergency service and also visitors. We call for Lewisham Council to hold a full public consultation immediately!" (J.P.)

"We are totally against the modal filters. Our family are active cyclists and walkers. We also use public transport but the amount of traffic and pollution this is creating in areas being affected due to traffic increase is shameful". (M.H.)

"Please let me know how to object to the road closures in Lewisham. I live in Datchet Road. Road closures and ULEZ extension charges are punitive let alone in the middle of a pandemic - this will affect small business owners and tradesmen, people who can't cycle or who are not fit enough to cycle huge distances. We already have a terrible bus service and I don't want to catch COVID 19 on it and how do we get our shopping home? Typical left wing council, why would I be surprised? Anti business and free movement and pro indoctrination is their agenda. Appalling, as a tax payer and business owner I am disgusted by the arbitrary and arrogant attitude of this council who can't even manage to take up the weeds from our streets, who replace paving stones with poorly laid tarmac, who cannot deal with rodent infestations which abound in our filthy streets, now this - they are pathetic!!!!!! (V.S.)

"I would like to add my dissatisfaction of road closures happening around Catford. This will only make the "A" roads around Catford more heavily congested and which would bring a higher pollution rate to those areas as well, especially when cars are stationary in traffic. I would respectfully request a reconsideration of the road closures as this will not benefit Catford at all and the cycle routes in Catford are not heavily utilised." (A.C.)

"Please would you send me details on how I can object to the ridiculous road closing schemes around the Manor Lane area of Lee". (K.M.)

"We live in Rangefield Road and are concerned about the road closures. With the government emphasis on avoiding public transport, I now ride my bike with my two year old daughter to work. Closing off the roads increases the traffic on these roads thus increasing my risk of an accident". (E.L.)

"For us it means we are now completely cut off, by car, from the area in which we live. Our only exit out is on to the Lee High Road. We are also cut off from the borough in which we live, unless we drive round to central Lewisham or drive through Lee Green, the south circular and Catford. And come back the same way.

We will not be doing these journeys by cycle or walking. We were not a rat run, but our lives are being made more difficult". (P.R.)

"Blocking roads will highly affect driving time, create more congestion and make the journeys impossible but not reduce the pollution. Just wonder what would be those idiots next move. The best would be out of council". (V.B.)

"I strongly object to the road closures in the Lewisham area. A lot of these are closed for social distancing. I think in the time we have been in this situation people are sensible enough to keep their distance. Come on Lewisham open our roads". (K.E.)

"I would like to strongly object to the road closures Lewisham council has been making. I live in the area and recently tried to get from Blackheath hill through Lewisham. All the diversions caused me to have to go back on myself detouring through New Cross, through Brockley and Forest Hill to get to Downham. It was a complete disgrace. We couldn't understand why every single road was blocked or closed. It took us nearly 2 hours to get from Blackheath hill to Downham that day as traffic everywhere. What fantastic planning and a complete farce!!! Please help me to raise my objections. I see no reason to pay my council Tax, if Lewisham Council won't do anything to help me. We are going to move away from Lewisham now anyway, I will be giving them nothing from now on, useless bunch of Twats!!" (S.S.)

"Thank you for your leaflet. We live on South Park Crescent and strongly object to the proposals. As you acknowledged, there was insufficient local consultation and a questionable use of the new Coronavirus legislation to push through these road closures. In addition, as a resident outside the road closure streets and very close to the South Circular, this has proven to be extremely disadvantageous. We have increased journey times, increased air pollution but also no longer have the option to enjoy the local benefits on the other side of the train tracks without a forty minute round trip walking which, especially with a child under two and two full time jobs to manage, is not always an option. The road closures largely benefit those in properties within the road closures who already benefited from being much closer to the local train stations and amenities". (A.V.)

"I would like to object to all these road closures that Lewisham are doing. It is total stupidity. Would they like to drive their cars in all this carnage?" (R.M.)

"All Lewisham Council are doing with the road closures are compressing the air pollution and creating huge traffic jams in the alternative journeys; they can't even repair the thousands of potholes yet can find the money to waste on these closures". (C.N.)

"I 100% object to this, I am disabled and unable to walk or cycle. I don't want to spend hours in traffic". (S.B.)

"Very interested in objecting to this. I am disabled, rely on my car and can't do public transport because of anxiety and panic attacks". (P.H.)

"I object to the fact that all the drivers living in the proposed road closure roads have the right to drive down my road - at any time of the day or night - but nobody is

allowed to drive down their roads at any time whatsoever. This is so undemocratic it beggars belief. As people are, understandably, reluctant to use public transport at this time of pandemic and car use appears to have increased, hopefully temporarily, perhaps the council could delay this plan until the (global) emergency is over instead of adding to the extremely stressful prevailing situation in the country at present by making travel even more difficult". (L.B.)

"Thanks for you leaflet. Yes these closures are an outrage. A separate East Berlin – style mini-state has been created. The Covid reason is utter BS. They are in fact spreading Covid since people are stuck in buses and works vans for longer as they held up by increased traffic on surrounding roads. As for the closed off roads being described as "residential" – the A205 is residential, the A20 is residential and so on. Are their residents of a lower order and thus more "polutable" maybe?" (G.P.)

"We live on the top end of Verdant Lane and have just received your leaflet regarding the Lewisham Road Closures. Me and my husband strongly object to the road closures as we have noticed a HUGE increase in heavy traffic backing up far up our end of the road. We would usually only have traffic building up past our house on a few days a month due to a traffic accident on Brownhill Road etc, however it is backing up past ours every day from around 3pm onwards. We have a little child and one on the way and want to oppose the road closures completely". (S.L.)

"I fully support what you are doing and will do what I can to help the campaign. I am elderly but reasonably fit. I can walk a normal distance but will never cycle (have not done that since I was 13). I do drive and don't think it is good for a car, let alone the environment, to sit in traffic". (J.B.)

"We will support the objections to road closures in Lewisham. We have been affected enormously. A 1min drive now takes over 40mins to get home. When schools starts in Sept our child will also be heavily affected. We would like to sign up to more information and how we can support you in keeping the roads open!" (H.O.)

"Please stop the road closures as it is causing chaos all over Lewisham, also affecting local businesses and emergency vehicles getting through". (A.P.)

"I object to this because it's clearly not been planned properly and as a local I can see the negative effects already - traffic jams, more pollution, road rage etc, please keep me informed, thanks". (G.M.)

"Many thanks for contacting regarding the road blocks in Lewisham. They are creating many problems for the residential area. Causing Traffic, delays and problems". (V.D.)

"I received your fantastic leaflet about opposing Lewisham Road closures. These changes have already had a huge impact on my life, and I would be very interested to learn how to oppose them as I thought they were a foregone conclusion". (M.T.)

"I object to the road closures in Lewisham. It's impacted on my journey and made it longer and stressful. (T.C.)

"I have noticed some roads have been closed across Lewisham borough. Though it is important for everyone, groups and government agents to take controlling measures to minimise the spread of COVID-19 but I do not understand how the closure of roads to only vehicles can minimise the spread of coronavirus. This move is disruptive, causing unnecessary traffic in nearby roads and it isn't fit for purpose in the case of COVID-19. Therefore, I object to the road closure and request Lewisham Council to reopen the roads without delay". (R.O.)

"I would be grateful for more information on how to object to the Lewisham Road closures as per your leaflet received by my daughter. I live in Verdant Lane, Catford and am sick of the volume of traffic being pushed our way and the additional congestion and pollution being caused.by the council's ideology over reality approach to traffic management". (E.P.)

"To the Mayor: I sent you a copy of my messages to two Lewisham councillors about 10 days ago, but have received no reply. My wife and I have lived in Leyland Road for over 40 years and feel disenfranchised by the current lack of consultation and 'realistic' consideration as regards road closures. We will, in fact, be particularly affected when the Colfe's School parents 'rat run' re-starts. Several residents, including us, have been adversely affected by parent's parking and occasionally abusive behaviour (which the school says it is unable to control). The south end of Leyland Road (i.e. Upwood Road end) will be especially problematic, as only this and Dorville Road are now 'open'. I am also confused by the imposition of a £130 fine; your recent message is unclear as to exactly what this latest undemocratic 'regulation' is intended to achieve apart from raising funds for Lewisham; again with no public consultation or advanced warning". (R.S.)

"One resident on Manor Park needed a scaffolding lorry - Lewisham Council refused to allow it in telling the truck driver to unload a mile away and carry the scaffolding to the house! The more I hear this, then the more I'm tempted to sell up. Momentum run Lewisham are wrecking the borough. This is one area of incompetence; what other areas are they demonstrating incompetence that we haven't noticed yet? On Wednesday I had to go to work in a remote site in Berkshire, It took me 15 minutes to cover 0.5 miles from Upwood Road/Burnt Ash Rd to the A205 South Circular. The traffic lights have been re-phased, a few seconds green and 4 minutes red. It's the same ploy used by Red Ken to create congestion then claim that congestion charge is the solution to remove the congestion". (R.S.)

"My family and I strongly object to Lewisham Roads being closed off! Without a public consultation. And find it disgusting that we are being forced into this". (S.D.)

"I am writing to object to this plan because it is unnecessary and will cause more traffic, other travel disruptions and is an obstacle for the elderly, disabled and those who cycle. The government have already implemented local lockdowns if the corona virus increases especially in certain areas. It is likely the whole country will be in lockdown again like it did in March and April during the winter period as a second wave of the virus is predicted to occur since it started in the winter in China. Therefore there is no need for the road closures if everyone is required to stay home then there will be less vehicles on the road". (A.A.)

“I’ll gladly object to these ridiculous road closures and happily take issue with Lewisham Council on several of their wonderful projects that they have introduced. These road closures are purely for the benefit of the ‘cycle brigade’. How do these cyclists contribute financially to these schemes? Road users who have to pay to use and be on the roads are expected to tolerate poor road conditions and more. Has the traffic congestion, inconsiderate parking, obstruction to public transport along Beckenham Hill road and side roads been monitored?” (S.N.)

“Hello. I would be interested in some advice and thoughts about the school streets scheme that has sprung up without residents being consulted and amounts to being discouraged from returning with our cars to our driveways over 3.5 hours a day and anyone without number plate registration fined. The council are being vague and not helping!”. (S.Y.)

“Just made the mistake of coming through Lewisham to get home from work. Left Charlton at 4pm and arrived home in Brockley at 6 50pm. Never again”. (J.S.)

“I object strongly to the closing of roads in and around Lee. The councils’ reason is to reduce vehicle pollution which is unproven and unfounded with the scheme they have created. In fact it is more likely to create a greater toxic situation by way of heavier traffic volumes channelled into a concentrated area. I must ask the question as a motorist: am I being discriminated against by reduction in the amount of roads I can use and yet road tax does not reduce prorata?” (H.M.)

“I’m writing to add my voice to the many who must have already complained about the Lewisham road closures. I’m living and working in the Lewisham area. My home is located in Downham and my work is on Lee High Road. I travel everyday (from Monday to Friday) between those two places. I’m really fed up recently about the amount of roadworks in the area, traffic, long queues and now these closures. My normal day travel trip have been around 15 - 20 minutes tops; right now it is more than double. I don’t see any benefit of this closures, maybe except to local residents”. (M.S.)

“I write to add my voice to the many who must have already complained about the Lewisham road closures. At a time when there seems to be roadworks absolutely everywhere, these closures have effectively cut off any way of avoiding a long queue. I run a business on Lee High Road where there have been roadworks outside our premises for many week and I have queued for a considerable amount of time merely to access our premises as the queues from Eltham and Lewisham are horrendous. I accept that local residents need to be protected but it would seem that some earnest clerk in Lewisham council has carefully studied a map to ensure that maximum inconvenience is caused to motorist seeking to avoid local traffic incidents. I also query whether Covid is merely an excuse as I see no relevance between a virus and road closures. My last point is that, as a person paying business rates in Lewisham, I feel extremely annoyed that I was not consulted nor asked for my opinion before these draconian measures were put into place”. (M.B.)

“Lewisham’s whole anti-car policy has escalated over the last 10years. Less and less available free parking. This latest attempt at making general use of roads difficult to

say the least seems to occupy Lewisham Council rather than the real things that matter at these serious times..." (D.M.)

"I received your leaflet through my door today and would like to object to the needless and frustrating road closures". (J.S.)

"Not happy with road closures. I am a meter reader. I do appointments and it's taking me twice as long to get to streets in se12 se9 se6 areas. This has nothing to do with covid-19. Just another excuse because the government don't want people using cars". (D.A.)

"I am objecting to this unconsulted road closing and without notification. This affects me enormously. I am a disabled driver who visits grandchildren as their mother is not well! We live very close. They live about 10 minutes walk from me and I used to pick them up and sometimes on school days I will drop my grandchildren to school on my way to medical appointments, which is right in the corner of Glenbow Road; why was it put in there without warning? It is ridiculous and unacceptable. The road is never busy but now I have to go all the way around by either the main road or further down for no reason. This infringement is unnecessary. More driving around with pain, makes the journey longer and more costly adding more miles to run just because there is a road closed. Stop this nonsense blockage". (E.V.)

"This is a local resident whose life becomes more and more frustrated by less and less ways to get away from the front door without joining the vast commuter traffic on the main roads. Is the council deliberately trying to make ordinary life intolerable?" (K.B.)

"I would like to request extra information regarding the objection to road closures by Lewisham Council. I have already seen first-hand the impact it has had and the increased danger to children in roads which were once quiet". (B.M.)

"I strongly object to the Road Closures, a waste of time and public money". (M.M.)

"I live round the corner from Glenbow Road and they have closed part of it. The park is such a small part of the road so I cannot see what it achieves. The park is never that busy and I have not seen more people using it since they closed part of it. The last I heard someone had moved the flower beds so you can drive down there. I will sign the petition but having dealt with Lewisham council when they had a self build down our road years ago they give one representative from our road 10 mins to discuss why we were against it - we all felt like Lewisham had made their mind up. It didn't matter that we were concerned with nowhere for cars to park etc. I hope you will be more successful". (A.R.)

"I have definitely let Lewisham Council know that I think this scheme was invented and put into practise by Morons, Idiots, Imbeciles and Lunatics and that includes the London Mayor. Sadly Lewisham Council are making it look like more people are for the closures than against them, I do not believe this but it's hard to prove, also our local councillors are not replying to complaints, It's a disgrace. I support you all the way in trying to upturn this ridiculous scheme". (A.S.)

“We are interested in your point about discrimination. Our “main point” in our comment on the Manor Park feedback page is about the increased time required to take “mum” to dialysis, which is in Lewisham hospital. It was a very quick journey and is now very slow. Ennersdale Rd was the logical route. The dialysis patients are a very vulnerable category of persons and the last thing they need is longer journeys to and from the dialysis clinic. And they of course have no choice about when their journeys take place”. (S.W.)

“In our local area (SE14) we have already seen the potential for problems with earlier closures diverting more traffic on to residential roads (particularly residential roads which are also bus routes or emergency access routes which cannot be traffic calmed). I have written to our local councillors and to Cllr Sophie McGeevor (in charge of the scheme in Lewisham) about their current closure of Kitto Road under the COVID-19 scheme with no response. Along with many others (70% of whom objected to the road closure) I added our comments to the Council on-line consultation: the views of the majority were ignored and the road closure went ahead. The feelings of drivers and residents were clearly brought out by the fact that the closure bollard was ripped off and the road closed signs painted over within a few days. The Council then replaced the bollard. It has since been unlocked by somebody who had a key and concreted over in a such a way that it cannot be put back up (although I am sure the Council will try). I do not approve of people committing criminal damage to Council property in this way; I cite it however as evidence of the strength of feeling against a road closure which the Council seems wilfully to ignore. Let me also say I am not so concerned about the problem of driving in this respect (it makes my journeys longer, but possibly cuts down traffic on my part of my road) but the fact that it is diverting traffic from a road with few houses onto a longer journey on roads with more houses, thereby making a lot more peoples' lives worse for the sake, as far as I can see, of relatively few cyclists. As far as pedestrians are concerned, in this case, it is also diverting vehicles from a road with wide pavements onto already crowded roads with narrow pavements. The COVID-19 measures are being put into place with no proper consultation and objections seem to be ignored. Outside our own borough, I have also complained to the GLA about other schemes, particularly in central London and the extension of the Congestion Charging Zone during the COVID-19 crisis. I am in a moderately high risk category for COVID-19) but am being forced to use public transport at a time when I should not be. Some may recall that during the rail strikes back last century, the GLC opened up the road network and put car parking into the public parks. The GLA, rather than helping people to avoid public transport, has done quite the reverse. I would have liked to have seen driving and parking made easier in central London - only during the COVID-19 crisis - by the designation of more street (and park) parking (there is a lot of vacant street space in central London at present), with no CCZ charge at the weekends and with an exemption for those who have an over-65 Freedom Pass or are otherwise in a high-risk category”. (M.B.)

“I hope this is not too late but I am writing to object to the road closures. I live in Lee but officially the London Borough of Greenwich, just. I chose to live in Lee and use Lee train station and the shops in that location. This is now so much more difficult

and restrictive. I cannot collect my children from the station in the rain as it would take 20 mins to drive to the station, if I am lucky. There are safety issues to be considered here. My neighbours are elderly and now unable to access the shops where they live and instead are pushed out on the main road. It's horrible. These decisions have literally cut communities in half. I can't stand the oppressiveness of these decisions, made by a few people". (S.H.)

"I object to the proposals as they will massively hit the trade for our business Harlequin Party Shop on Lee High Rd. Please re-think involving dwellers and workers in the area". (P.D.)

"Hello how do you object the ridiculous road closures around Lewisham? They haven't closed some of the roads but they have closed all side roads around Lewisham. It's dangerous and ridiculous. As a resident I no longer have access to roads leading to home without massive delay. It's beyond stupid. A major accident or incident on the main roads will leave me with no route home. I was stuck in traffic for 2 hours on the 17th July because of an incident on the A2. We had no choice but to wait it out". (S.D.)

"I am writing to complain about the current situation with road closures within Lewisham borough. The council have had complete disregard for the thoughts and feeling of its residents. My entire support network is within the road closure area. My mother lives in Manor Lane and my son's nursery is also within the closed area. I have two small children under 2 and although we walk most places this is not always practical or realistic, given weather and life constraints. Both were only five minute journeys by car have now gone up to 20-30mins. The current situation has made all the road within the borough far more congested and almost impossible to drive anywhere. We see having a car as a luxury and the local authority appear to have an agenda to make it almost impossible to have one for those on lower incomes putting parking permits up by double this year. At a time when the government are advising you to use your car rather than public transport. It appears to many in the borough, as further gentrification of an already very middle-class area. Appealing to the middle-aged men in lycra crew without proper thought about those who are older, have young children or a disability. Definitely a neighbourhood divided. Why should one neighbourhood suffer at the cost of another? Promoting clean air in one just pushes the problem somewhere else. Traffic has increased ten-fold on my road - Belmont Hill because of the sheer congestion in the town centre and along the A2. Also not helped by the closure of Boyne Rd which happened again without consultation approximately 15 years ago. Apparently done as a councillor for Lewisham lived on the road at the time and lobbied for the changes. I hope you can use some of my objections towards your arguments against the current road closures". (F.G.)

"The closure of roads on the west side of Burnt Ash Road is a serious mistake. One result of this is that the southern end (Upwood Road) of Leyland Road, which is already used as a 'rat run' and dropping-off route by Colfe's School parents, will now be even worse affected. Many residents, including myself, have paid the council for white lines to prevent school parents parking across our driveways. Frequently,

parents have been abusive to Leyland Road residents and the school, although sympathetic to residents, is powerless to act. Not only is this a very real post-pandemic problem (i.e.: when the school re-opens in the autumn) but it is also a traffic accident and pollution matter if/when Leyland Road becomes even busier in the early morning and at close of school. In addition, the closure half-way along of Upwood Road will undoubtedly cause further disruption and, indeed, possible accidents, as parents will now use Upwood Road as a turn-around to re-access Burnt Ash, rather than being able to drive through to Horn Park Lane. There is also the issue of emergency (vehicle) access. My wife and I object to these closures from every angle. We have been residents of Leyland Road for over 40 years". (R.S.)

"I am writing to make my objections known regarding road closures around Lee and Lewisham. The implementation of these closures will cause: GRIDLOCK, HIGHER LEVELS OF POLLUTION, INCREASED JOURNEY TIMES, PROLONGED RESPONSES BY EMERGENCY SERVICES. Already there is traffic queueing down Harland Road at peak times due to the build up of traffic on Baring Road turning into the South Circular Road. In the 43yrs I have live in this area I have never experienced such high volumes of traffic congestion and this is not helped by the amount of roadworks currently taking place!" (J.S.)

"I wish to protest against the current road closures occurring in Lewisham. It is resulting in congested traffic on the main/major roads in the borough with the consequential added pollution, longer journeys and irate drivers. It appears an ill thought out exercise". (B.S.)

"We live on Holme Lacey road and we entirely object to these new road closures. It is seriously affecting our journey times to anywhere at all! Thank you for taking the time to create this group". (E.T.)

"I object strongly to these road closures. Both my husband and I are hospital doctors and it is adding an extra 15-20 minutes journey time to get to the hospital. We also care for my mother and can't take her to hospital as quickly as before either. Also the pollution from all the drivers driving for longer and further is worse for the environment and for the people living on Burnt Ash Road, which includes a nursing home, plus all the people waiting for buses or walking to Lee station. It makes no sense whatsoever and needs to be reversed asap". (S.W.)

"Firstly, many thanks for the support you and your organisation have given to the residents of Lee who are being held hostage by the London Borough of Lewisham under the guise of Covid-19. The introduction of road closures as a method of controlling congestion will have other long-term negative effects. As a case in point, I was planning to buy an electric car within the near future, however, what is the point of making that large investment if I am unable to drive my current car, which has very low emissions? Therefore, I have changed my long-term plans and will not make that 'green' choice because the cost is greater to me than the benefit – I will retain my petrol car indefinitely. The other decision I have been forced to make is to drive out of the borough to do my shopping as I have easier access to the A2 than Lee Green. Will this affect the development of Lee Gate because no business will

thrive there now? The units at Chiltonian Industrial Park look very quiet and I suspect their business may be suffering". (S.B.)

"I am a Lewisham resident and I am alarmed at the numerous side road closures that have been implemented within the Lee area. I live in the Bellingham area and I understand this scheme will be rolled out in the Bellingham area which is of deep concern as I live in Southend Lane which is a main road in SE6. If extra traffic is pushed onto Southend Lane then this is going to cause further increase in pollution etc as I can see this is happening in the Lee Green area.

I note there has been no resident consultation and the scheme is being implemented in Lee early due to covid. I note the side roads are extremely quiet however the A20 St Mildred Road is jam packed with traffic. This cannot continue it is a war against drivers and devaluing properties situated on the main roads". (C.L.)

"Thank you for your note and leaflet. Indeed as residents in Newstead Road we are extremely upset and annoyed at Lewisham Council who have seriously affected our daily lives and way to travel in the area. Lewisham Council have been closing many roads in our areas of Lee Green using the Covid 19 epidemic - as a result this has split our lovely community in 2 parts with serious consequences on road travelling. Manor Lane, Manor Park and Upwood roads and many others are now closed and this has stopped us from having fast and direct access to our local hospital in Lewisham forcing us to use the busy south circular via Catford which is not sustainable for elderly patients. These road closure have made practically any residents of Lee Green living on the other side of the railway line into a complete ghetto. This is creating divisions at a difficult time with the Covid 19 Crisis very much still present. This brutal closure has creating serious traffic congestion in the area and severe pollution all day long on Burnt Ash Hill. Roads are now solid with heavy traffic on Lee High Road - Burnt Ash Hill which make any trips for us totally unworkable. This is a very Brutal decision from the council ignoring the views of local residents in Newstead Road - Dallinger Road and many more with no proper public consultation. A very upsetting and sorry date of affairs." (M.F.)

"Please stop the road closures in Lee Manor, Lewisham. All it has done is create traffic elsewhere, obviously, and I keep hearing about emergency vehicles having to do three-point turns because of the closures. It needs a re-think!" (L.B.)

"Myself, and my family strongly object to the recent road closures being carried out in our area. I live on Holme Lacey Road and the end of my road has now been blocked. This new development is already causing problems for us as myself and my husband both drive, we have three children who are constantly needing to be at different places at different times. Having our road blocked and so many others is not making life easy for us and so many other residents too. if anything it has so far made more life stressful than it already is. It's absolutely ridiculous! Thanks for your support I only hope it's not too late to stop this unjustified act by the council". (C.W.)

"We live in the borough of Lewisham and our journey to school in Blackheath from Lee has been severely affected by the road closures. Our trip to Manor House gardens means we are forced to use the main road which takes longer. We live on

Harland Road and we have since seen more congestion on our road because of this". (D.W.)

"I write as both a motorist and cyclist regarding the frankly ridiculous road closures, implemented in the Hither Green area over the last month. To my knowledge there has been little or no consultation with us, the residents, who are now bearing the brunt of these closures in the form of a huge increase in congestion together with the greatly extended journey times and increased pollution this causes. A journey to drop my teenage daughter at Lewisham DLR that used to take 30 minutes, now takes well in excess of an hour. And that's when I am willing to make the journey; at other times the traffic is that bad that I am not willing to sit bumper-to-bumper crawling along Torridon Road, which now regularly experiences tailbacks across the lights at the Sandhurst Road junction. Instead I ask my daughter to get the bus, where she experiences the same gridlock and delay, leaving her to question whether making her journey is worth the stress. I believe one of the justifications for the closures is to make the area cycle-friendly. As a cyclist I assure you that the last thing that contributes to a cycle-friendly environment is frustrated motorists, especially when the cyclists are viewed as the beneficiaries of their frustration. How such issues were not apparent when this scheme was planned is beyond me. With Hither Green's proximity to the already congested South Circular, the effect such closures would have on the traffic should have been obvious. Alternative means of transport are simply not an option in a great many cases and so we're stuck - short of moving house, we either like it or lump it. However, my understanding is that these closures have currently been made on a trial basis; given it should already be clear that this scheme is a failure, I see no purpose being served in prolonging the misery it has created and ask that you push for the trial be wound-up at the earliest opportunity". (N.H.)

"The blocking of roads is absolutely ridiculous. This will have a serious impact on residents and more importantly times to get to Lewisham hospital will dramatically increase plus ambulance times to residents will also increase quite probably resulting in deaths. No thought given about this type of scenario at all. Last weekend my wife drove from home to Catford, stopped for 10 mins, drove onto Downham and returned, journey time 2 hours; yes two hours for a usual 30-40 minute trip". (K.H.)

"Your team are doing an excellent job and we are confident that every resident will register their objections. These closures are totally unjustified/ unwarranted and serve no useful purpose – all the Trials will achieve nothing except CHAOS and disruption of Access to Hither Green and Lee Railway services. The closing of the junction (+cameras) at the crossroads (Fernbrook Road/Manor Lane/Southbrook Road) is unacceptable because no vehicles can enter or leave to reach the upper end of Manor Lane and Milborough Crescent, depriving hundreds of residents returning home from Lewisham shopping, both parks, Library, Handen Road Clinic, Supermarkets, Greenwich, Blackheath etc. and problematic for traffic access to the recently converted Chiltonian industrial Estate with numerous shops. We observe that vehicles that enter from Burnt Ash Road into Holme Lacey/Dallinger Road, find that they cannot exit as both roads are blocked at the end with a metal pole embedded in the centre hence they have to turn around and go back to Burnt Ash

Road proceed to St Mildred's and turn into Manor Lane involving close to half a mile to reach a destination which is only a few yards away. Total waste of time, fuel cost, aggravation, and inconvenience. It is definitely an inappropriate time to conduct such a trial when Coronavirus is rife and over 80% of the workforce are house-bound working from home instead of reporting to offices and shops. The Think-tanks have not taken into consideration the fact that when residents purchased houses on Manor Lane they did so, by bearing in mind all the facilities, amenities, etc. surrounding them, viz. schools, buses, trains, library, parks, shops, church, GP clinic, etc. Now we are deprived of all these facilities. This state of affairs should be looked into seriously with a view regarding compensation to all the residents, from the respective authorities for their slip-up". (P.N.)

"As an elderly resident of Horn Park Lane I am appalled and distressed at the effect of the closures of Upwood Road, Cambridge Drive, Woodyates Rd etc. I have a terminally ill husband at home under palliative care and am dependent on my car for essential shopping, doctor (Handen Rd), Lewisham Hospital etc. Hospital transport, district nurses, carers are all affected by the closures but are essential for me to keep my husband at home. Ambulance transport is regularly required to take him to Lewisham Hospital or St. Christopher's Hospice. As we are no longer able to go through Hither Green and both time of journey and miles covered have increased significantly and will be worse when schools re-open. Horn Park Lane is already a rat run and it is increasingly difficult to get out on to Lee High Road and the South Circular. Lewisham have been very high handed over this and despite requests Royal Greenwich Borough seem to be ignoring what is happening to affect their (our) roads and I would like to strongly object to the proposals". (S.B.)

"I am writing to add my support to the objection to the Road Closure on Dallinger Road. I am in the vulnerable category and now delivery drivers are no longer delivering to me due to the road closures. The decision is absolutely ridiculous". (K.M.)

"Why did they have to block all road from Lee to Hither Green as that is the quickest route to get to Lewisham Hospital. Now they are forcing all traffic onto the major roads which are already heavily congested. What is going to happen if there is an accident on one of these major roads, which means there will be major delays which is a common occurrence on our motorways and now will be common occurrence on our major roads too. If a parent/carer/childminder is too far away to walk to school or has a pick-up at two schools and there is an accident on one of their roads how do you expect them to be to school on time? I understand traffic control but there are too many road closures in this area and they will cause major delays and disruption to people's lives". (D.L.)

"Thank you for starting the petition. I am not sure what has happened, but Lewisham has closed off part of Ennersdale Road (a main road) and changed the direction of traffic on Pascoe Road. Traffic is now racing through Pascoe Road from Ennersdale, the main road. I have lived at Pascoe Road for over 20 years. Up until this point, it was a quiet, one-way street. It has totally destroyed the street. The signs indicate it may be to do with COVID and or cycling, but as somebody who

spends a lot of time at the front of the house, cyclists rarely use the road, even after this change. There is no reason that this change should have happened and I certainly don't recall any consultation on this matter. Please help! Not sure what the neighbours are thinking, but much the same, I should imagine. Ennersdale is a main road. Pascoe road is a small, narrow, one way street which has been destroyed by this thoughtless process". (A.P.)

"We live in Upwood Road on the Greenwich side of the road. Half of Upwood Road is within Lewisham. Lewisham Council has recently blocked and closed the road (half way in the middle). We have to drive locally everyday to a relative in Carston Close. Since Lewisham Council blocked and closed Upwood Road, Cambridge Drive and Leyland Road we have been forced to drive around, three times more our normal mileage, to get to our relative. The only way for us to drive there is to go in the opposite direction to Horn Park Lane, then to Eltham Road to Lee Gate, then into Burnt Ash Road, Dorville Road, Leyland Road and finally Carston Close. A really round about journey. The Eltham Road A20 rush hour traffic to Lee Gate is bad enough normally. Now it is a nightmare. The one-minute drive from Horn Park Lane to Lee Gate and our local Sainsbury's could now easily take half an hour and more because road closures push more traffic into Eltham Road. We have friends living in Eltham Road ( near Cambridge Drive ). They are horrified by the increased traffic and air pollution. As we are driving more and not less we are using more petrol polluting the neighbourhood more and contributing more to the traffic congestion. Is the Lewisham Council's policy of closing so many local residential roads such a good idea to help improve and create a healthy environment. They want people to walk and cycle. Many people are not young enough to cycle or even walk. People have to drive for all sorts of reasons. They only now pollute more and create more traffic congestions by driving in convoluted ways as a result of the road closures. Lewisham Council is pushing traffic from one area into another area. Healthy living for some at the expense of others. Isn't this rather selfish and also unkind to those not so capable of cycling or even walking. Use better options to improve the environment. For instance, more single yellow line residential roads and one-way streets could achieve a lot towards a better neighbourhood. To Close roads is too drastic". (J.J.)

"I live on the small section of Minard Road, north of the South Circular Road. It is usually a quiet bit of road, however, since the road closures have been put in place in other parts of Hither Green, there is now a huge increase in traffic going up our road (and surrounding roads), as cars are cutting through to get onto the South Circular from Hither Green Lane, where long queues are forming at the traffic lights. During rush hour, there is now a steady flow of traffic up this section of Minard Road and then queues form here too, as traffic builds up waiting to get onto the South Circular. I fear that we, my husband and our baby, and all others living in this area, will be affected by the levels of fumes that are now being emitted on our road and surrounding roads. As we are now surrounded by queues of traffic. Minard Road is also a cycle route, and the excessive traffic now on the road make it very unsafe, if not almost impossible for cyclists to use the road. With cars parked on either side, it is effectively a one lane road. That one lane is now either being driven up regularly

by speeding cars or filled with a queue of traffic. I understand the need to make roads safer and make the air cleaner. I am a keen cyclist and walker and welcome changes that make these activities safer. However, the road closures put in place are having the opposite effect where I live. A scheme that moves dangerous traffic levels from one area to another, is not a solution. Why do some people deserve cleaner air and a safer road outside their house and others don't? When we bought our house, we did so on the basis that it was on a relatively quiet and safe road, but that is no longer the case, and I find it very distressing. Please rethink these changes". (A.O.)

"I am an unpaid full time (around the clock) Carer for my mother who resides with me. She is in the late stages of Huntingtons Disease and is fully dependant on visits from Carers, District Nurses, and other professionals visiting my home as she is bed bound. I have witnessed emergency services having to turn around. That aside, I was not consulted or asked my preference. Local residents cannot access local amenities as they did before, yet those within Hither Green Central can. My teenage daughter who attends the local secondary school will be more 'at risk' walking to school as the school 'never asked' for interventions". (N.C.)

"I wish to STRONGLY object to the proposals in Lewisham. I run a local before and after school club for working parents. The impact of the new road closures will be detrimental for children that we drop off and collect on a very tight schedule from 8 - 9.15 am and 3 - 4 pm daily. We are planning to walk the majority of children to and from school although, this is in no way ideal as some have disabilities and younger children may find the journey difficult, especially during the colder months. Ordinarily, we would collect children from schools in our 17 seater minibus, meaning that there are 16 less parents' cars on the road, and, parents are safe in the knowledge that their children after a full day at school can be transported to our club in comfort and safety. As well as this, I live on Burnt Ash Road and, as a result of the closures, the traffic is now displaced to this road where now (before schools fully reopen and people return to work), traffic is far, far worse than ever before and cars are sitting for longer periods with engines idling, increasing CO2 emissions. My daughter has asthma which no doubt, will worsen now. I welcome your support with objecting the closures and look forward to hearing from you soon". (R.W.)

"Thank you for leafleting in my area. I live on one of the roads that has a school on it and although the road has not been shut we will have timed closures when it's implemented. The road will also be a feeder to the south circular when drivers have problems with backlogged traffic on Manor Lane and difficulty accessing it. I did attend the meetings but was not originally told about the closures even though it affects everyone along our road. I feel it was already a done deal and the public meetings just a P.R. stunt, but now the scheme has gone ahead under the guise of Covid-19 with no further consultation, Covid-19 was a great time to bury democracy as far as the residents this affects". (G.W.)#

"The road closure by the borough of Lewisham has to be cancelled immediately because it denies the residents free movement in their locality and without consultation the residents are also denied consideration and respect. Lewisham

Councillors imposed and redesigned our locality using the resident's money without their approval to impose walking and cycling, discriminating against the sick people, the disabled, the older, the very young children and the victims of fire and accidents as it increases the response time of emergency services. It will also impact negatively on local businesses". (C.D.)

"Thank you for your flier regarding Lewisham Road Proposals/Closures. I am a disabled resident, Blue Badge holder, living on Manor Lane SE12. The recent road closures have already massively impacted on me negatively. Trips to the hospital now take 30 minutes longer. A trip for medical supplies takes an additional 15 minutes. Congestion has increased following Lewisham road closures and not decreased. I see less people walking and cycling. Disabled motorists especially those who live alone are totally reliant on vehicles to get about safely to get essential items, medical care and medical supplies. Other options available to non-disabled people are not available for disabled people. Therefore, these road closures are DISCRIMINATORY against disabled people who cannot access areas that non-disabled people still can. Lewisham road proposals and closures need to be re-considered as a matter of urgency and a matter of law. Disabled people's views need to be taken into consideration and communicated more transparently to help wider residents so they can more fully understand the impact changes such as these have on disabled and vulnerable groups of residents. I am also massively concerned that significant changes were carried out without the agreement of residents. I believe the council commented that they'd spoken to 700 residents out of 14,000 in the Lee Green area - even if they all voted for these changes (which I'm not sure they did), it's such a tiny proportion of the overall community that the decision to go ahead with making changes should not have been agreed. And, where was it published that residents actually VOTED for these changes? I wasn't aware that we'd suddenly become a communist state with Chairman Egan making undemocratic decisions ad nauseam and which are flagrantly ultra vires". (A.S.)

"I am keen to make my voice heard. The road closures are a nightmare for me as a resident of Lee". (M.C.)

"My journey to and from work is taking twice as long due to these closures and there is now a constant queue of traffic outside my door on Lee High Road". (S.B.)

"I am amazed that this has gone through when so many people objected very clearly at a consultation meeting. I notice that South Row has successfully reopened. So many people are affected - businesses, traders and the elderly. A trip to the hospital is a nightmare using all the main roads detouring through Lewisham town centre on congested roads. Obviously the people or person who put this in place does not live in the area". (R.B.)

"In regards to the stealth road closures I would like to add the following comment: As a large local family who span generational divides, we rely on these roads being open to get around and see each other, helping to build up the community. This is clearly overall detrimental for the environment, as it results in the worst congested roads being even more heavily congested, due to the increased idling of cars".(G.H.)

"I would like my name added to any petition objecting to the new road closures in the Lee/Hither Green area of Lewisham. I live alone in the area and need to get out and back and have people visit. Today it took me over an hour to get home, probably a journey of less than 2 miles which would normally have taken 5 minutes. The main roads were virtually stationary with traffic. The fumes and pollution must have been dangerously high". (G.J.)

"Hi, I live in Manor Park where these road closures affect me and my family. These road closures have increased my journey to and from work by half an hour there and back even though my office is in Catford. For my job I work in properties in the Lewisham borough. These road closures have had a massive impact on my day to day life, impacting on me getting around the borough to carry out my job. I am very concerned for ALL the children in the Lewisham Borough who are due to go back to school in September with even more pollution on our main roads where our children will have to wait at bus stops inhaling these fumes to and from school due to the extra pollution on the major roads because of these road closures. These road closures have definitely not been introduced to help congestion or enable people to cycle or encourage walking especially our elderly and disabled community. Furthermore as a resident of the borough I pay council tax and we should have had much, much more consultation on these proposals from our councillors who we elect. This cannot just be about people who do not live in the Borough and who have the choice not to own a vehicle. I could NOT do the job I do without my vehicle as I need to carry my tools and materials around the borough from properties and unfortunately they cannot be carried on a bicycle, skateboard or any other means of transportation. Thank you so much for taking on Lewisham Councillors. We residents thought no one was listening to us...so thanks once again". (C.B.)

"The road closures in Lee are a nightmare. It has increased congestion and pollution near my home so a few middle-class people can ride their bikes in peace. This is appalling decision making with no consideration for the stress and distress we all have to go through during this difficult time. You should see the air quality at the end of my road. What utter madness". (S.H.)

"I disagree with the road closures around Lewisham. I live in Pascoe Road which is affected by the closure of Dermond road and Ennersdale road. I and my family have been isolating over the covid19 pandemic for months now, and haven't seen family or friends The Council has made it impossible for them to come and visit, due to double journey time plus issues with parking and due to traffic on the roads that the closures have caused. This is impacting on all my family and all my neighbours we didn't get any warning about the closures that are happening. No cabs are able to come on to my road due to the one way system on Pascoe road and they can't stop due to traffic on Dermond road. I have 9 children that attend 3 different school in Lewisham and to get them in on time I rely on using cab services. I also use cabs for hospital appointments at Kings College hospital. Noise nuisance due to the one way on system on Dermond road. The road is busy by 7:30am in the morning and I was woken up by cars tooting and people shouting like it was right outside my front door. This continues all day until 2am in the morning. This is unacceptable and even causes more danger for pedestrians. I am totally against all of this and the changes

to the road the council has made. This has made my life and my neighbours life hell. (B.M.)

"I live in Lee Green myself and am deeply annoyed and depressed about the road closures. All my journeys have since taken 3 - 4 times Longer since the road closures". (T.W.)

"I fully support the initiative against Lewisham road closures, of which I learnt through a door-drop. I have objected to the plans from its early days, including writing to the Council and repeated letters to my MP. I would like to receive information on what can be done to stop this wasteful, idiotic project that goes completely against the grain of the local community of neighbours". (E.K.)

"As drivers we're concerned at the road closures around us and the lack of consultation around them. In particular we have concerns over emergency trips to the hospital. "Please inform us how best to object". (B.F.)

"I am totally disgusted with the recent road closures around Manor Lane SE12. This is causing tremendous queues of traffic on the main roads leading to the A20 and other roads. I have two local Sainsbury's but cannot reach neither of them or the pharmacy without sitting in traffic, I need to drive to my local Sainsburys' as I am not able to walk long distances. On Saturday this usually 5 minute journey took me 40 minutes in the amount of traffic to get there. I don't know how this was thought out but it is causing so much congestion and surely more pollution, not to mention my anxiety levels!!" (G.M.)

"Could you please tell me how I can object to the road closures in Lee. I live in one of the roads closed and am extremely unhappy with Lewisham council and the very crafty way they have gone about it. Please reconsider these plans. I have lived here for 25 years and never have I ever seen the levels of traffic this has caused in the area. We have never had a problem with this before. This is absolutely shocking and has not been thought through with local residences. I pay road tax and for petrol so I don't see why this should now be costing me more to get to my destination in an area which I choose to live in and love. This makes no sense at all and I urge you to reconsider these plans as it is causing stress to many local residence and local businesses" (M.M.)

"Many thanks for your leaflet through the door today. Glad to see you driving this objection forward (pun intended). Our quiet Pascoe Road is already now a rat run as a result, endangering the lives of children at the entrance to Trinity Primary School. Pollution will increase because of the long slow journey round Lewisham to get anywhere. Commuting will be an issue. I see online maps have still not all been adjusted to show opposite direction of traffic either which will cause accidents (Googlemaps is correct, Apple maps is not). I do not understand the COVID nature of the change that's just wildly misleading through a kind of emotional blackmail. Let me know how we can object more loudly". (M.P.)

"I am writing to object to the road closures that have been put in place. I live at the St Mildreds end of Manor Lane and can only now enter my home via the south circular which has already seen a massive increase of traffic. I am a single mum and work in

the borough and have no choice than to drive to drop my children to school (Bromley Common, so way too far to cycle) then into work and I then use the car in working hours to attend meetings. There is no way I am going to now be able to drop my children and get to work by my starting time. Who will make up for my pay decrease in wages when I will now have to start an hour later and leave a hour earlier? At times with the south circular already having been a busy road this gets blocked by an accident, or truck getting stopped at the railway bridge. How when this happens and the road is closed for hours will I get home when no other road now allows access? I feel like the crime rate will go up in an area that was already seeing crime as no emergency services can now get to them directly. Poor local businesses that have suffered throughout COVID-19 now have no passing trade and will have to close. Poorly thought out!" (G.M.)

"Just some thoughts on the situation. I had to drop my car in to have the brakes looked at this morning at our local garage, a journey from Horn Park Lane to Meadowcourt Road. Normally quite straightforward. Now I'm forced down to backed up traffic trying to get onto Eltham Road. With Upwood blocked this is inevitable. Stationary and idling traffic is increasing pollution for those at the bottom of Horn Park Lane. It's sending traffic onto the already congested Eltham Road with huge queues to the Tigers Head lights. It's increasing congestion and pollution on this road, including Riverston School and numerous residential estates down there. What happens when there are roadworks on this road? There's already a set on Lee High Road (lasting I think, 16 weeks). It's increasing the journey time for even the simplest of local journeys by probably 3x. The mass closures have significantly reduced the possibility in my opinion of any reversal in the 'trial' (if ever there was a possibility). With Leyland, Cambridge Drive and Woodyates all also closed, if you opened up Upwood you'd have a significantly worse problem than ever existed before. It would then become the primary route for traffic. Currently there is no access to the area I live from the whole of Burnt Ash Road, stretching from Tigers Head to the South Circular and from the Tigers Head to Horn Park Lane. The benefits and consequences are completely discriminatory and unfair. We are now hugely less accessible for Emergency Services, Deliveries and daily life. In regards to the 'trial'. What criteria are used to judge the success or otherwise of the trial and who makes the call whether it is deemed a 'success' or not? If the trial is supposed to be 6-18 months, who decides it should be 6 months or 18? The decision should not be made by Lewisham Council but an independent assessment. I believe Lewisham Council to be strongly biased and will judge the scheme a success by any criteria they wish to dream up. The way Covid-19 legislation has been shamelessly used to further their own agenda and the transparent disdain for anyone's views be it local residents or neighbouring Greenwich Council shows they consider themselves unstoppable and are not prepared to let any proposals from outside be considered. The claims to get everyone cycling instead....where are the cycle lanes on Burnt Ash or Eltham Road, they are closing quiet residential roads with no problem for cyclists but making no provision for the hugely busy main routes. Some of the outstanding problems regarding Upwood have not been considered by Lewisham. Increased parking in Upwood was a direct result of Lewisham's CPZ policy on the other side of Burnt Ash, leading to narrowing of the road from Station parking and parking over residents'

drives. Drop-offs for Colfes School significantly affected traffic flows, to such an extent that whenever Colfes were on holiday, morning traffic flow eased by probably 50%. There has been limited engagement for a divisive and extremely unpopular scheme. There have been no proposals covering more flexible arrangements for local residents. Our own narrow concerns just reflect the stupid reality which has now been imposed on us which we feel is deeply unfair. We see no benefits only downsides. There are around 15 other locations which have completely carved up the area. There's been no public publishing of the data which doesn't support the basis of it. I have seen it on a FOI request. I feel we've been stitched up with no recourse". (S.H.)

"I would like to receive more information and be kept informed about the many road closures which have already started taking place in the SE13 area with the reason for the urgency being stated as Covid -19. I do not believe that we have been consulted enough about these major and life-affecting changes as they have now been forced through urgently. Please inform me of any protests/challenges being made to Lewisham Council with regards to this". (D.L.)

"I totally object to these road closure as I live in Milborough Crescent off Manor Lane on the South Circular side. These road closures mean that i have to use the already busy South Circular extending my travelling time for everything i.e. shopping, doctors and even going to Lewisham hospital. It is a complete problem and myself along with many other residents attended the Lee Green assembly held at Trinity school on Taunton road, to make our objections heard to the council. This is in my opinion going to be implemented even with the objections of the local residents and would cause a lot of problems and my feeling is the trial period also is just a way to make the residents feel better, as this will be implemented even after the trial even if the figures are not so good, as the residents will be not privy to these stats. Let me know what else we can do object these closures". (N.M.)

"I have already voiced my concerns both verbally (at the meeting held at Old Colfeians in January) and by email to local councillors, TfL and my local MP, Clive Efford. Although I live in the Greenwich part of Lee the proposals will have a big impact on my neighbours and me. In effect they will cut us off from the rest of our neighbourhood, restricting access to e.g. my doctor, dentist, church, local shops & restaurants, as well as the station. I am in my 60s and, although I am relatively fit and walk or take public transport where possible, I am aware that this may not always be the case and that I will probably need to rely on my car more as I get older, especially during the winter months and at night. I was already worrying what to do next year when the ULEZ is extended to cover my road. I bought an almost new car in 2013 with my redundancy payment thinking that, as I do relatively low mileage, it would see me through many years. Because I was persuaded to switch from petrol to diesel for the first time (due to the then government initiative) I will either have to pay the daily charge when it is brought in next year or buy a new car, neither of which I can afford to do. Maybe one good thing that may come out of the COVID-19 pandemic will be that politicians will have more things to worry about than bringing in draconian measures to restrict people being able to go about their daily

business, especially if they are older or have restricted mobility.....cycle? My Giddy Aunt (or words to that effect)!" (D.W.)

**Comments Received Prior to Road Closures:**

"I strongly object to the way Lewisham council have approached this scheme". (N.F.)

"We absolutely object to Lewisham borough's horrendous proposal to close some roads in Lee Green and Hither Green". (L.C.)

"I strongly object to the proposal to close Upwood Road. It will adversely affect us in many ways. It will make all the properties around here far less accessible, and hence far less attractive affecting the house prices and saleability in a big way". (S.H.)

"I absolutely object to these ridiculous proposals". (L.F.)

"I strongly oppose - this will become a nightmare for residents". (J.R.)

*Freedom for Drivers Foundation*

*Tel: 020-8295-0378*

*Web: [www.freedomfordrivers.org](http://www.freedomfordrivers.org)*

*Twitter: @Drivers\_London*