



Item 7.1: Questions from Members of the Public

Full Council – 20 November 2023

1. Question from Peggy Wylie to Councillor Krupa Sheth (Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure & Climate Action)

The 206 bus route is for many living in the Kings Drive, The Paddocks, Salmon Street area a real necessity. However, when there is an event scheduled at Wembley Stadium no 206 service is provided to the area after 11.00/noon (or even earlier) because the service is curtailed at Brent Park.

The suspension of this service to the Wembley Park, Kings Drive, The Paddocks and Salmon Street area disproportionately affects our most vulnerable residents - the elderly, disabled, parents with small children and women travelling home alone at night. It also affects people needing to travel from this area to reach their place of employment and in particular those that work for Tesco, IKEA.

Brent's local plan for our area proposed the opening of North End Road to allow traffic to and from Bridge Road, Wembley Park, which would enable the 206 to serve our area on event days. The changes to the road layout have been completed and yet we are still deprived of our bus on event days.

As a result, can the Cabinet Member for Environment, Infrastructure & Climate Action advise if the combined forces of the London Borough of Brent, Transport for London ("Every journey matters!") and Wembley Stadium Limited will listen and take note of residents' needs and finally commit to seeking an urgent and permanent solution allowing the 206 bus to run its full route to the Paddocks on Wembley Stadium event days?

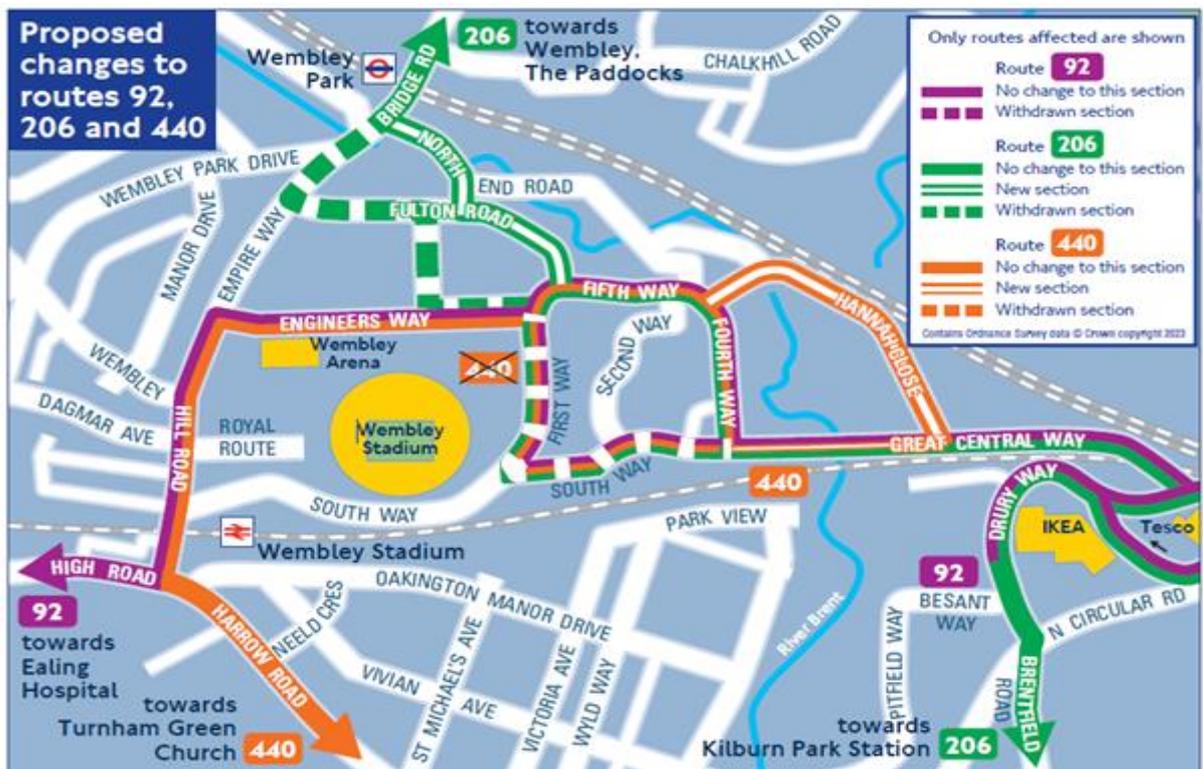
Response:

Transport for London (TfL) are responsible for the provision of bus services in London and consult on route changes and frequencies to improve services and efficiency.

Brent liaises with TfL on the bus services provided in the borough and requests improvements to satisfy the needs of residents and businesses. Brent also liaises with TfL buses for Wembley Stadium events where it is necessary to curtail / divert services for security. However, the council is committed to implementing infrastructure improvements identified under the Wembley Area Action plan and recently completed the North End Road connection and Wembley 2 Way working

projects which will enable bus services to be provided via this route on stadium event days in the future.

TfL carried out a consultation earlier this year on proposed changes to bus routes 92, 206 and 440 through the Wembley Park area with a view to simplifying the bus network following the introduction of two-way working arrangements in the area and which would allow for services to continue to serve the area on event days. The plan below outlines the proposals for all three services.



Following the consultation and following subsequent route tests, TfL has advised that the proposed changes to routes 92 and 440 will now go ahead, but a revised change to route 206 is to be implemented. This is due to the need for further works to signalise the junction at Bridge Road/North End Road (which is planned) control parking, and to strengthen a culvert. The latter is now required in order to support the intention to introduce electric buses on the 206 route. As such, and for the immediate future at least, route 206 will continue to serve Fulton Road and Rutherford road (see plan below). It is intended that all these changes will be introduced during 2024.



The Council will continue to work with TfL to deliver improvements to bus services through the area on stadium event days and throughout the borough.



Item 7.2: Questions from Brent Youth Parliament

Full Council – 20 November 2023

1. Question from Brent Youth Parliament to Councillor Grahl (Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Schools)

What plans does the Council have in place to improve the support for young people with SEN in schools and outside of school, as they progress through the education system and fundamentally into adult life?

Response:

The Council's SEND Strategy 2021-25 sets out agreed actions for improving services for children and young people with SEND to ensure their successful progress through the education system and into adulthood. This was developed with young people with SEND and their families and implementation of the actions are regularly tracked by Brent Children's Trust.

The Council provides a range of support to Brent early year settings, schools and colleges to ensure that children and young people with SEND have the best possible outcomes. There are a range of specialist teams in the Council's Inclusion Service that support children and young people with SEND, from the 0-25 SEND team who work with schools and parents to ensure Education, Health and Care Plans are appropriate to teams that support children and young people's specific SEND needs, for example the Early Years Inclusion Team, the Brent Deaf and Hearing Support Service, the Brent Vision Impairment Service (BVIS) and the Brent Outreach Autism Team (BOAT). To improve support for children and young people in education settings, the SEND support team has been rolling out a Graduated Approach Framework in Schools (GAF). The 'GAF' outlines to schools a range of support that they can put in place to meet the different needs of children and young people with SEND, with practical examples and signposting to other services that can support.

The council is also expanding the number of special school places through a £44m capital programme which includes a new secondary special school. In addition, the council is providing grant funding to schools to develop inclusive environments and facilities that better meet the needs of children and young people with SEND.

The Brent Local Offer provides information about a range of short break activities for Brent children and young people, which include social and skills-based opportunities. Young people have also helped to design and develop a website called Preparing for Adulthood <https://www.brentyouthzone.org.uk/pfa> where young people with SEND from 14 years old can find information about the help

and activities in and around Brent that they can access to support them on their journey to adulthood. To support older young people with SEND, the Council has agreed capital investment in a Post-16 Skills Resource Centre which is in the development phase. This will take the form of a horticultural and education centre at Welsh Harp and facilities on a new site in Cricklewood to help young people with SEND develop employment and independent living skills.

It is important that young people with SEND are involved in shaping the services available to them and the Council is developing a Young Persons SEND forum to do this on a regular basis.