Background
As part of Ealing Council’s school safety programme, funded by Transport for London, we have developed a proposal aimed at improving cycling and pedestrian safety along Castlebar Road between the junctions of Charlbury Grove and Mount Avenue. The proposals are principally aimed at students of St Benedict’s Jr School, St. Benedict’s School and Notting Hill and Ealing High School as well as cyclists regularly traversing the route. However other road users, including the residents of Castlebar Road and St. Stephens Road, will benefit from this scheme.

Council officers have assessed the area, including visiting the site to assess site conditions. We have developed proposals that are shown on the attached drawing.

Existing issues
Issues that have been identified within this study area include:
• Due to the nature of the road, cyclists are under risk when cycling uphill Castlebar Road. The steep uphill slope encourages vehicles to overtake slowing cyclists.
• Cyclists have been noticed to be increasingly using the footway.
• The junction of St. Stephens Road with Castlebar Road has a long crossing distance for pedestrians and cyclists.
• An existing Zebra Crossing is available to use as a crossing near the roundabout at Montpelier Avenue, however, vehicular flow is very fast and hence there is an increased risk for pedestrians using this crossing.
• Cyclists currently using the footway do not have a safe entry point into the carriageway to turn right into Montpelier Avenue.
• Junctions of Montpelier Avenue and St. Stephens Road both encourage higher vehicle speeds which increase risk for cyclists using carriageway and pedestrians crossing the roads.
• There is a narrow road width at several locations making it more dangerous for vehicles overtaking cyclists.
• Drivers of vehicles on Castlebar Road, or those entering St. Stephens Road, are not sufficiently aware that they are in the vicinity of a school.

Proposals
The proposals will address the above issues in the following ways:
• Create a ramp leading to a footway level cycle lane starting opposite the junction of Charlbury Grove with Castlebar Road on the western footway and ultimately re-joining the carriageway after the bus stop located after the roundabout at Montpelier Road Junction.
• Installation of a raised table at the junction of St. Stephens Road and Castlebar Road as well as building out the kerb so that the crossing distance is reduced for pedestrians.
• Crossing cyclists will have priority over turning traffic at the St. Stephens Road junction.
• Installation of a second raised table at the zebra crossing on Castlebar Road. This will discourage vehicles driving at higher speeds which will contribute to providing a safer crossing for pedestrians.
• There will be provision of cyclist entry to the carriageway at the new zebra crossing, allowing those cyclists wishing to turn right onto Montpelier Avenue to do so, safely.
• A protected entry ramp off the cycle lane onto the carriageway will be installed just north of the existing bus stop after which an advisory cycle lane will be indicated using road markings.

Overall the proposals are considered to improve road safety and encourage walking and cycling to schools.

The benefits
• Improved pedestrian and cyclist safety
• Reduced traffic speed.

Your views
The Council would like to know your views, to help ensure that the proposed measures are appropriate. Please read this document carefully, look at the plans overleaf and go online to www.ealing.gov.uk/consultations to complete the questionnaire, or return the paper questionnaire in the enclosed ‘prepaid’ envelope to reach us by 23 May 2014.

What happens next
The responses to the questionnaire enclosed will be analysed and reported to your ward councillors. Taking into account the responses of residents and local schools to this consultation, a decision will be taken regarding implementation of the scheme. If you have any queries please contact Highway Services on 020 8825 5000 or HighwayServices@ealing.gov.uk

Please complete this questionnaire. Your views are important.

The closing date for this consultation is 23 May 2014

Please return your completed questionnaire using the envelope provided.
You can also complete this consultation online at www.ealing.gov.uk/consultations

Highways

HAVE YOUR SAY
Consultation Questionnaire
School Safety Improvements – Castlebar Road Cycle Lane

Please fill in this questionnaire and return it in the prepaid envelope provided by 23 May 2014.

Name: ____________________________ ____________________________________________

Address: ____________________________ ____________________________________________

Postcode: __________________________

1. Are you responding as a… (please select one answer only)
   - Resident
   - Business/School
   - Both
   - Parent

2. Are you in favour of the scheme?
   - Yes
   - No

3. Do you think there are currently safety issues for road users around Castlebar Road?
   - Yes
   - No

4. Do you think the proposed scheme will improve the safety of all road users around the schools?
   - Yes
   - No

5. Please provide any further comments in the box below.

Thank you for filling in this questionnaire.
Please return your questionnaire in the prepaid envelope provided to:
Highways Management, Ealing Council, 1st Floor Perceval House,
14/16 Uxbridge Road, Ealing W5 2HL.

We need your comments by 23 May 2014.

Thank you for your help.