

**Draft 1: Reduction of buses in Wellesley Road during Construction of
New Westfield Shopping Centre in the Whitgift Centre**

Today there are some 23 Bus routes that transverse Wellesley road, either from Central Croydon or from East Croydon.

The following buses from Central Croydon terminate at West Croydon: 154, 166, 194, 403, 405 & 412.

The following buses terminate at West Croydon from East Croydon: X26, 194, 367, 433 & 689

The following buses pass through West Croydon from Central Croydon: 50, 60, 75, 109, 250, 264, 407, 455 & 468

The following buses pass through West Croydon from East Croydon Station: 64, 194 & 410.

One can understand the desire to reduce services during construction work. However, any reduction in or alteration to routes needs to take into consideration the needs of passengers, especially those with reduced mobility that need to cross Croydon by having to change buses once, or even twice. There also needs to be consideration the destinations that passengers from different parts of the borough need to get to that require crossing the centre of Croydon, which include: Croydon University Hospital, Fairfield Halls, Bernard Weatherill House, Surrey Street Market and West Croydon Station. It must also maintain connectivity so that passengers can easily change buses at the same locations and any change does not require changing twice when the journey can be made by one change currently.

Therefore changes should provide passengers with new and increased journey opportunities. I would suggest that by looking at the central Croydon bus network, a number of changes could be made to routes that would result in both the least disruption and offer new and improved journey opportunities.

I would suggest, of the routes that cross West Croydon that the following routes remain as now in Wellesley Road:

Bus	Route
60	Old Coulsdon to Streatham
64	New Addington to Thornton Heath
198	Shrublands to Thornton Heath
109	Central Croydon to Brixton via London Road
250	Central Croydon to Brixton via Green Lane
264	Central Croydon to Tooting via Mitcham
75	Croydon Fairfield Halls to Lewisham to
410	Crystal Palace to Wallington
468	South Croydon to Elephant and Castle via Upper Norwood

The following three routes could be considered for changes, dependent of the carry over across Croydon:

Bus	Route	Suggestion	Alternative
50	Central Croydon to Brixton via London Road	This could be diverted at West Croydon, and travel via Tamworth Road and Old Town, continuing to Nottingham Road via Bramley hill. This would provide a new link to large areas of Croydon that do not have access to a bus.	Route 468 would continue to provide a cross Croydon route to Whitehorse Road and Thornton Heath.
407	Caterham to Sutton via Central Croydon	This route is clearly in tow sections, and could be split to run from Sutton and Caterham to East Croydon*.	Route 410 continues to provide a cross Croydon route and the 154 provides alternative to Central Croydon
455	Wallington to Old Lodge Lane via Wandle Valley	This route could run in two sections: Wallington to West Croydon and Old Lodge Lane to East Croydon*	Route 410 continues to provide a cross Croydon link for some of route 455. In the south, route 404 would continue to provide a route to West Croydon from Purley and Pampisford Road.

The following two routes should continue to West Croydon for the South:

Bus	Route
403	Warlingham to West Croydon
405	Redhill to West Croydon

If we look at where the remaining buses that terminate at West Croydon, these could be diverted to provide new links to journey opportunities. They could be diverted to East Croydon station, but fortunately the capacity and bus station is laid out in a way that is conducive to buses laying over. However, there are a couple of alternative possibilities.

1. Buses could be diverted up George Street, and turn left into Dingwall Road (with a new set down stop outside the AMP building), then continue on to a stand near the old Job centre (there is already a loading bay just north of the point). On leaving the stand there could be another stop in Lansdown Road near the Co-op to pick up passengers near the new exit from East Croydon Station, and buses would re-join the east of Wellesley Road near the tram stop. A second stop could be considered here near Jurys Inn Hotel to provide interchange with the tram.
2. Buses could divert up George Street and turn right in to Altyre Road with a new set down stop and a new set down just south of the subway (the parking bays could be removed to the other side of the road) the buses could then stand further up Altyre road or in Hazledean Road. On leaving the stand the buses would travel via Addiscombe Court Road and pick up at East Croydon.

The following Buses could be diverted to East Croydon Station:

Bus	Route	Suggestion	Alternative
154	Morden, Sutton, Wallington via Fiveways to West Croydon	This would provide a new link from Morden, Sutton and Morden to East Croydon	Routes 157, 407 and 410 would still provide links to West Croydon.
166	Epsom/Banstead to West Croydon via Coulsdon	This would provide a new link from Banstead and Coulsdon to East Croydon	Route 60 and 405 would still provide the link to West Croydon.
412	Purley to West Croydon via Sanderstead and Selsdon	This would provide a new link from Sanderstead East Croydon	Routes 64 & 403 would still provide the link to West Croydon

407*	Caterham to Sutton via Central Croydon	If the southern half of the route was diverted to East Croydon	60, & 405 would continue to provide link to West Croydon from Purley
455	Wallington to Old Lodge Lane via Wandle Valley	If the southern half of the route was diverted to East Croydon	Route 405 would continue to provide the link to West Croydon from Purley and Pampisford Road.

If we look at where the remaining buses that terminate at West Croydon from the East the following buses could be diverted to new destinations in the centre of Croydon, including the New Wandle Road stand. They could be routed either via Park Street or via Park Lane and Fairfield Halls.

The following Buses could be diverted from East Croydon Station:

Bus	Route	Suggestion	Alternative
194	Sydenham, West Croydon	This could be diverted via Park Street and the flyover to Wandle Road	Routes 75, 194 & 289 would still provide links to West Croydon.
433	Addington Village	This could be diverted via Park Lane and Fairfield Halls, providing a link to Fairfield Halls from the East. Then could continue via the Fairfield Halls Roundabout and direct to Wandle Road with a stop on the Flyover slip road.	Routes 64 would continue to provide a link to West Croydon from Addington Village, Selsdon.
367	Bromley to West Croydon via Addiscombe	This could be diverted via Park Lane and Fairfield Halls to provide a new link to Fairfield Halls from Addiscombe. After Fairfield Halls it could be extended over the flyover to Old Town and then along Old Town and up Tamworth Road terminating at West Croydon Bus station. This would provide a bus service to Old Town, which at present has no bus services and link it to both East and West Croydon stations.	Routes 198, 289 & 410 would still provide the link to West Croydon.
X26	Heathrow to West Croydon	This is the one route that could be terminated at East Croydon by setting down passengers at East Croydon, then turning right into Dingwall Road and then set down outside AMP House and then stand in Dingwall Road; it could then Return via the roundabout and picking up in Dingwall road as now. It could also pick up at Fairfield Halls to provide a second stop in the town centre.	

Charles King

Chair of the East Surrey Transport Committee

September 2018