



Transform Tulse Hill Deputation to Lambeth Full Council, Wed 15th October 2025

Good evening, Mr Mayor, Leader, and Councillors.

We are Charlotte Ashworth of the Station 2 Station BID, Jamie Hodge, a resident on Christchurch Road, and Tom Palmer of the Norwood Forum, speaking on behalf of Transform Tulse Hill, a coalition of residents and businesses.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you tonight.

We have come before you to address a matter of life and death in our community: the long-overdue removal of the Tulse Hill Gyratory. We are asking for your commitment to action.

We are united by a single, urgent demand: fix the Tulse Hill gyratory.

Our community deserves better.

Lambeth residents deserve to be safe.

For too long, the Tulse Hill Gyratory has been a symbol of unacted promises and stalled progress. It's more than just a traffic problem; it's a crisis of safety and a physical barrier that tears our neighbourhood apart.

And this is entirely avoidable. We should have zero tolerance for this scale of injury and death on our doorstep, and we know change is possible.

Since the gyratory removal project stalled in 2019, we've seen far too many recorded crashes and incidents. Every one is a failure of our shared commitment to Vision Zero.

But these aren't just statistics. These are human lives. We have lost neighbours, friends, and community members. We will not forget them.

We are doing this because we refuse to let another family be tragically affected. The cost of inaction is measured in blood, broken bodies and trauma.

We would like to share some experiences from members of our community:

"I was crossing the road with my trimmer on my way to my allotment. I was hit by a bus. The next thing I knew, I woke up in an ambulance. I subsequently learned my ribs were broken, I had a bleed on my brain, and I spent the next two weeks in intensive care. I can't be there tonight as I am recovering from my injuries at home. Still, everyday things trigger the anxiety. I live with the knowledge that the brain bleed I suffered puts me at greater risk of long-term cognitive issues. Please, don't let my story be repeated."

Magda, Tulse Hill Resident

And we carry the memory of those we have lost:

"It was my son's 11th birthday, a day full of excitement and joy. As we approached the gyratory, we saw that someone had been fatally knocked down on the zebra crossing.

Our mood changed instantly - from celebration to sorrow, from thoughts of birthday plans to thoughts of the victim and their loved ones. We were late to school that day, but the conversation about life and death felt far more important than a mark in the register.

We subsequently learned that the victim was a young doctor with a bright future ahead of her. Her name was Jasjot Singhota. Every year on my son's birthday, we make a wish for her. We will never forget."

Sandy, Local Resident

This is the grim reality. The gyratory chokes the life out of our town centre and discourages walking and cycling, completely undermining Lambeth's active travel goals. It is a terrifying, bewildering junction.

We all know how bad it is. We hope you agree with us that something needs to be done.

We are not starting from scratch. We know that removing the gyratory is an achievable, life-changing goal. The original £7 million 'Streetworks' project, developed in a unique and successful partnership with our community, TfL and the council, had a fully developed vision for its removal. It was a model of community-led change. Funding was announced by press release.

Then, the project was put on the back burner.

Councillor Holland and Lambeth Council are clear that improving road safety and reducing the danger for residents is a priority.

Councillor Olga Fitzroy has been a stalwart supporter and we thank her for all her work on the issue.

Yet, for the community, progress in recent times has been minimal.

Despite a walk-about with the Deputy Mayor for Transport in 2022, and a commitment from Transport for London (TfL) to an Outcome Definition Study, community engagement from TfL in recent times has been minimal.

We had to file a Freedom of Information request to TfL just to see the four options they're currently considering for our community.

We are asking instead for genuine partnership working.

We in Transform Tulse Hill are ready and willing to work collaboratively on every scale of improvement, but we need you, our elected representatives, to put your weight behind this community led effort, using your power to encourage TfL into action.

Tulse Hill doesn't have the connections, or the large-scale developments of more affluent areas.

So we ask for your political courage and your commitment to help us.

Here is John's experience.

"In 2014, while cycling toward Herne Hill, I was hit near the Norwood Road gyratory. A driver, confused by its chaotic layout and double traffic lights, ran a red and struck me.

The camera footage showed they never braked - I was thrown over the bonnet. As I lay bleeding on the tarmac, the ambulance took nearly an hour to arrive, even though King's College Hospital is ten minutes away. The accident on this one-way design caused total gridlock, blocking emergency access. In other circumstances, that delay could have been fatal.

Luckily I survived after two surgeries and a week in hospital. But the truth is, this gyratory is as much to blame as the driver. After 13 years living beside it, I've seen too many crashes and too many lives lost.

This dangerous road system must change - before it kills again."

Our requests

So what are we asking of you?

1. Bring clarity and action around funding

- Please publish a report explaining how the Local Implementation Plan (LIP) and Community Infrastructure Levies works and how Tulse Hill can be included in future plans.

You can shape TfL's priorities.

We ask you to make the Tulse Hill Gyratory a top project priority for Lambeth once again.

Please explore how funding could support early engagement, design and planning.

2. Lead a joint lobbying effort

- Coordinate with our MPs, ward councillors and Assembly Member to urge TfL to include Tulse Hill in its December Business Plan.

We understand the challenges around resources, especially after major investments like in Streatham and that is to be made at Vauxhall.

We don't have luxury hotels or skyscrapers coming. Instead we have small shops, a church, a GP surgery, a post office, restaurants and pubs. But they deserve support too.

The transformation of this junction would benefit all of Lambeth - not just Tulse Hill.

4. Give the community a seat at the table.

- Facilitate and attend regular meetings between Transform Tulse Hill, TfL, and key decision-makers within the council so we can work together to design solutions that work for everyone.
- Appoint someone within the council as a point of contact for us to work with.

5. Commit for the long term.

We ask all political parties to include the removal of the Tulse Hill Gyratory in their 2026 manifestos.

Closing statement

The next death or serious injury at the gyratory could be your neighbour.

It could be the child on your street walking to school.

It could be a driver confused by the layout.

It could be someone cycling to work.

Or someone standing at a bus stop.

It could be any one of us.

We do not want to wait another decade for meaningful change.

No more near-misses.

No more preventable accidents.

It's time to fix the gyratory.

Thank you.