



New Emirates Stadium traffic arrangements

Introduction

In July, Arsenal Football Club will be moving from Highbury to a new home at Emirates Stadium. This means we must make changes to traffic plans on days when there are matches or other events so that the Metropolitan Police Service can safely manage travel to and from the stadium and reduce inconvenience, as far as possible, to people living nearby.

The new arrangements, which will begin in July 2006, will be closely monitored and reviewed after the end of the next football season.

This leaflet outlines how the changes may affect you. Please keep this leaflet and make sure you are aware of the changes before the football season begins in August 2006. For further information please visit www.islington.gov.uk/matchdayparking.

Main points of the scheme

The Metropolitan Police Service, Islington Council and Arsenal have agreed a new traffic scheme that helps the Metropolitan Police Service make sure spectators are safe while causing the least possible inconvenience to people living nearby.

Car access

We need to close some roads nearest the stadium before and after the event to make it safe for visitors to walk there, and for emergency access to the area. We will keep most roads open during the event, but we will limit access to residents and businesses as pedestrians arrive and leave.

We will issue special new permits automatically to you if you already have parking permits in the local area. This is so the Metropolitan Police Service can recognise your vehicles and allow them through to most roads when the scheme is in operation.

Suspending parking bays

We will need to suspend some parking bays in streets closest to the new stadium for the safety of pedestrians. These suspensions will last all day for safety and security reasons. We will tell you before this is happening by putting up notices on the street.

Coach parking

For most events, Arsenal expects around 30 coaches will bring visitors to the new stadium. These will normally park in Queensland Road and the Sobell Centre car park. For a few busier matches, extra coaches may need to be parked in Hornsey Street and Drayton Park and, in exceptional circumstances, within Finsbury Park. However, for safety, the Metropolitan Police Service will have the final decision on where coaches will park.

A message from ...

Metropolitan Police Service

Dear Resident

As you may be aware, the Metropolitan Police Service is responsible for the safety of visitors travelling to and from the new Emirates Stadium. We have been working closely with Arsenal Football Club and Islington Council to introduce new arrangements to manage traffic that we believe will, on event days, improve pedestrian safety and make sure that people living near Emirates Stadium experience as little inconvenience as possible.

We have many years experience at Highbury and believe that these arrangements offer the best solution for safety and residents. As this is a new stadium, the traffic arrangements will be continually reviewed to make sure they are safe, while reducing, as far as possible, disruption to the communities of Islington.

**Chief Inspector
Richard Woolford
Islington Police Station**



Arsenal Football Club

Dear Resident

As with Highbury, we have agreed plans with the Metropolitan Police Service and Islington Council to make sure that supporters arrive and leave the new Emirates Stadium safely.

The new traffic arrangements for Emirates Stadium are similar to the current measures that operate around Highbury. They help local residents and businesses by opening roads during events. The new plans will be monitored during the 2006/2007 football season and can be changed, if needed, to deal with local concerns or safety issues.

We are confident that the new Emirates Stadium will be a great success and bring many benefits to Islington as well as the club.

**John Beattie
Arsenal Stadium Manager**



Key

- Parking suspensions
- Restricted access before and after the event
- Restricted access only after the event
- Special permit access between two hours before and one hour before event start time
- Coach parking
- No left or right turn



How the scheme will work

Before the event

Two hours before

If you live in the area and have a vehicle, when you display your special permit, you will have access to most streets while supporters begin to arrive. However, to make sure everyone is safe, the Metropolitan Police Service will close parts of Hornsey Road and Benwell Road nearest the stadium. They will also close part of Gillespie Road outside Arsenal tube station while people arrive. Residents will be able to access Citizen Road via Lowman Road.

One hour before

This is the busiest time before an event when most people arrive. Supporters will be directed to walk along Hornsey Road, Benwell Road, Gillespie Road and Drayton Park. For an hour before the event, until 15 minutes after its start, only emergency service vehicles will have access to these roads.

During the event

While the event is on, the police will reopen all roads except Queensland Road and parts of Benwell Road and Hornsey Road. This is necessary in case the stadium needs to be evacuated in an emergency.

After the event

After the event, the streets immediately around the ground are at their busiest as everyone leaves the stadium. 15 minutes before the end of the event, the Metropolitan Police Service will close the same roads as before the event and will also close Palmer Place, Prah Road and the northern part of St Thomas's Road near Finsbury Park station. These roads will be closed for about an hour, but the the police may open them more quickly if it is safe to do so.

Any questions ?

▶ **Who will get a special parking permit?**

If you live in a street shown on the map as being special permit access, you will receive a new special parking permit. There is no extra charge for this special permit.

▶ **How do I apply for a special permit?**

We will post your special permit to you if you already have a CPZ permit and you live in an affected street. If you have a driveway and do not have a parking permit, you will need to apply for a free match-day-only permit. If you have a question about parking permits, please call 020 7527 1338.

▶ **When does the new scheme start?**

There will be events in July when we will test the new stadium arrangements. You will receive a leaflet through your door giving details of these events. Arsenal's first home match of the new football season will be in August and Arsenal will distribute a fixture list to local residents.

▶ **How will I know when events are being held?**

As with the current traffic arrangement around Highbury, signs at the entry points to the match day controlled parking zone will tell visitors and residents, three days beforehand of the date of the next match or event. Islington Council's residents' newsletter will also publicise forthcoming events at the Emirates Stadium.

Arsenal has set up an e-mail service to let supporters and local residents know about fixture dates, as well as telling them about any changes. To register, please send an e-mail to: join-fixtures@list.arsenal.co.uk.

▶ **Why are you changing which roads are closed at certain times during an event? Wouldn't it be easier to close them all for the whole time?**

We have designed new arrangements to give as much access to local residents as possible while making sure visitors and residents stay safe. While an event is taking place, the Metropolitan Police Service will reopen most streets when it is safe to do so.

▶ **How does the new scheme affect Blue Badge holders?**

Blue Badge holders will be able to park in local streets as usual but will only be allowed in with a special permit before events. Blue Badge holders visiting the stadium will be able to park in reserved areas in the new stadium. To park here you must contact Arsenal at least 72 hours before the event.



Timetable

- ▶ Notification of east area committee Thursday 25 May 2006
- ▶ Notification of south area committee Thursday 25 May 2006
- ▶ Notification of north area committee Monday 22 May 2006
- ▶ Notification of west area committee Monday 22 May 2006

- ▶ Drop-in sessions at Highbury Football Stadium 1-4pm Saturday 3 June 2006
Cocktail Lounge, East Stand, Avenell Road 5-8pm Tuesday 6 June 2006

- ▶ Ramp up events (tests of stadium and traffic schemes) July 2006
- ▶ First match at Emirates Stadium August 2006



Fixtures emailing list

Would you like to be amongst the first to know as soon as an Arsenal first team fixture is rearranged, or as soon as a cup draw time and date is finalised?

The Club has set up an email service to let supporters and local residents know this information as soon as possible. This service will provide information on fixtures and it couldn't be easier to join. To register, please send a blank email to join-fixtures@list.arsenal.co.uk and you will immediately be added to the list. You will receive an email, within minutes, of any new fixture.



Contact us at

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020 7527 2000

street.management@islington.gov.uk



Useful websites

www.arsenal.com
www.islington.gov.uk