

## LONDON BOROUGH OF HARROW

<b>Meeting:</b>	Wealdstone Regeneration Advisory Panel
<b>Date:</b>	2 October 2003
<b>Subject:</b>	Wealdstone estate agents survey Should Wealdstone be renamed Wealdstone Village?
<b>Key decision:</b>	No
<b>Responsible Chief Officer:</b>	Director of Professional Services, Urban Living
<b>Relevant Portfolio Holder:</b>	Planning, Development, Housing and Best Value
<b>Status:</b>	Part I
<b>Ward:</b>	Wealdstone
<b>Enclosures:</b>	None

1. **Summary/ Reason for urgency (if applicable)**

1.1 For information

2. **Recommendations**

2.1 **None - For information**

3. **Consultation with Ward Councillors**

3.1 Not applicable

4. **Policy Context (including Relevant Previous Decisions)**

4.1 Not applicable

5. **Relevance to Corporate Priorities**

5.1 Not applicable

6. **Background Information and options considered**

Eleven estate agents were sent questionnaires asking whether they would be in favour of Wealdstone being renamed Wealdstone Village

Estate agents were selected on the basis they had listed a Wealdstone address and/ or they had advertised Wealdstone property in the Harrow Observer in at least one of the last 4 editions (as of August 18<sup>th</sup> 2003).

The responses were;-

4 Estate agents were in favour  
2 were against  
5 didn't reply

Area name changes are first raised with the local authority and the following must be informed so they can amend their records and listings

Post Office / Royal Mail

Emergency Services – Police, Ambulance, Fire Service  
Utilities – Gas, water, electricity  
Land Registry  
Ordnance surveys  
Bartholemews (maps)  
Geographical A – Z  
Valuation Office (Lyon House)  
Electoral Roll  
Council Tax  
Planning Department  
Traffic  
Social Services  
Education  
Parks  
Registrars  
Census  
Other London Boroughs

In addition local road signs would need to be amended and the Wealdstone residents and businesses would need to be notified of their change of address.

7. **Consultation**

7.1 As above

8. **Finance Observations**

Not sought at this stage.

9. **Legal Observations**

9.1 There are no specific statutory powers authorising the local authority to name or re-name an area. Apart from any costs which the Council might incur, there might be claims for expenditure arising from eg reprinting. The Ward name could not be changed except on a Ward Boundary review, or possibly by special application to the Electoral Commission, and would probably still require a Statutory Instrument. If the name were adopted for some but not all purposes, there is a risk of confusion.

10. **Conclusion**

This survey had six respondents, four in favour, two against.

It would seem advisable to consult Wealdstone residents more widely in view of the considerable working hours required to amend records in Harrow organisations, and then across all the other London Boroughs and other relevant organisations.

11. **Background Papers**

11.1 None.

12. **Author**

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