

Wimbledon Championships Community Panel – Changes made since 2025 Championships

Issue raised in Sept 2025	Report as of 23 Sept 2026
GOVERNANCE	
Agree who has lead responsibility/major partners for actions listed below. out of Merton Borough Council (MBC), AELTC, Met Police etc for which area of queue/crowd management in Wimbledon Park (WP).	Increased and improved discussions and agreements during year between AELTC and MBC. However, more issues still need clarification e.g. where people were camping in the Great park before AELTC's comes into effect.
TOILET PROVISION	
Look at ratio of temporary toilets provided compared to number of spectators in the queue.	Number of toilets increased (111 cubicles, 3 cabins of urinals, 2 accessible toilets). Not enough for spectators in 1 st week.
Improve signage especially to temporary toilets in other locations in WP.	Signage noticeably clearer and also use of big screen helped.
Research the historic reasoning for closure of established toilets in WP.	Toilets near children's playground open times from 9.30am (not 7am). Disabled toilet remained locked throughout with no reason.
Consult on option of closing Horse Close Woods (HCW)	HCW closed for just before, during and just after Championships.
Consider ways of discouraging people urinating and defecating in woods or land outside the queue e.g. removing of the ground pass of those guilty and who have been reported on, ensuring security personnel or stewards are more vigilant when patrolling the Park.	It seemed instances of urinating and defecating were lower than 2025. Any instances recorded for 2026 were mainly in the two-three days before the Championships (where there was limited access to toilets) and during the first week where the number in the great field exceeded the ratio of the toilets provided.
IMPROVING QUEUE BEHAVIOUR – IMPROVED USE OF BYELAWS	
Update Byelaws to prohibit behaviours such as urinating and defecating	To be taken forward in run up to 2027 Championships
Ensure better visibility of By Law notices by increasing the numbers in WP	Greater visibility of By Law notices.
Agree on how Byelaws would be enforced and by whom	Though better than 2025, there were still some instances especially in respect of people camping in the Great park before AELTC's licence took effect. Need to improve ways of enforcing rules.
Ensure security guards & stewards aware of the Bye laws obligations	TBC
Ensure that the queue is managed within the boundary of land leased by MBC i.e. queue does not stray into the parts reserved for usual park users, of children attending the Montessori school.	Impression is that instances of members of queue straying beyond the AELTC leased perimeter were fewer than 2025 but a few worrisome cases e.g. beer drinkers near childrens' play areas.

Engage with Safer Neighbourhood Teams (SNTs) in run-up to Championships to ensure a police presence/how to access police support	During the Championships, engagement with SNTs near impossible in Wimbledon Park (as far as could be seen) however, in Southfields the police presence was not SNT based but those seconded from central London.
Invite Safer Neighbourhood Team(s) to join Community Panel	Will try again for 2027. However, the police presence during the fortnight and outside the grounds were seconded from Central London.
Consider ways of encouraging better behaviour in the queues – e.g. use big screens to convey standards of behaviour (use of lime bikes responsibly in WP and rules re food delivery) signpost locations of toilets.	The big screen in the great park was very helpful in displaying the correct behavioural messages.
SECURITY GUARDS AND STEWARDS	
Consider feedback given on quality and helpfulness of stewards and security guards	Improved on 2025 in terms of stewards and more security guards were evident – some issues still need resolving
CONTACTING WITH AELTC DURING CHAMPIONSHIPS	
Ensure contact details of the AELTC's Operations Centre are more permanently on show in WP during Championships	More visible notices were evident and also the Big Screen was helpful. However, what is worrying is point made that some of the messages left were abusive. More needs to be done to manage residents' expectations.
Upload AELTC's Operation Centre role and contact details onto local RAs websites and other communications with residents.	AELTC provided the contact details and after a few tweaks RAs uploaded onto their websites before the Championships.
INCLUDING LOCAL BUSINESSES IN WP IN 2026	
Ongoing discussions between AELTC and SBF to agree next steps re support for businesses	Some businesses on Replingham Road reported an uplift during the fortnight. Also personal observation catering businesses (pubs/eateries) were busy round between 6.30 to 8pm)
Encouraging residents to signpost what Southfields has to offer near exit of Southfields Tube station	Southfields Business Forum recommended 4 local people to be employed as Local Guest Hosts. For 3 mornings and 2 afternoon/evenings. These hosts were proactive in giving correct directions, assisted to those with accessibility issues and recommending local businesses.