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Dear Jane

Re: Deptford Church Street and A21 Healthy Streets Corridor

Thank you for Lewisham Cyclist's joint letter (15th April) regarding the designing and building of a segregated cycleway on Deptford Church Street.

The Council is committed to supporting more people to walk and cycle safely through the borough, which will help to improve air quality and tackle the climate emergency. This is all the more important as the Government's COVID-19 lockdown measures begin to ease, as we know more Lewisham residents are cycling and walking and we want to facilitate those people cycling and walking to do so safely.

As you will be aware, the Council's transport team are developing temporary schemes to improve walking, cycling and enable social distancing in response to COVID-19. These include pavement widening and temporary cycle lanes. One of the corridors being investigated for a temporary cycle lane is Deptford Church Street.

Separately, and in the longer term, we are also keen to explore the options for creating a permanent segregated cycle route on Deptford Church Street and agree that this would create an important strategic link between Cycleway 4 and the Waterlink Way. Section 106 funding is currently available for this project and, if feasible, our aim would be to be in a position to start construction immediately after the Thames Tideway works are completed.

We welcome the input that Lewisham Cyclists are providing through discussion with officers on the COVID-19 transport response, including on a temporary facility on Deptford Church Street. We also encourage you to input your ideas through the Council's Commonplace consultation, as well as share it widely with your members: <https://lewishamcovidtransport.commonplace.is/>

We look forward to continuing working with Lewisham Cyclists to create safe spaces for cyclists and pedestrians.

Yours sincerely

Damien Egan
Mayor of Lewisham

Cllr Sophie McGeevor
Cabinet Member for Environment
and Transport