



## **About Lewisham Cyclists**

Lewisham Cyclists (LC) are the local borough group of the London Cycling Campaign (LCC) with more than 1500 supporters of whom over 650 are fully paid-up members of LCC. We speak up on behalf of everyone who cycles or wants to cycle in the London Borough of Lewisham and its adjacent local parks; and we speak up for a greener, healthier, happier and better-connected capital.

## 'Creating Safer Streets in Lewisham' London Borough of Lewisham Consultation January 2023

Reference: 'Creating Safer Streets in Lewisham' Project Centre Consultation: <u>https://pclengagement-hub.co.uk/en-GB/folders/lewisham-safer-streets</u>

As local Ward Councillors we are sure that you are aware of this current consultation regarding this modal filter in Downham. The consultation closes on Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> January. The filter is key in enabling more active travel in the area and improving the living environment for the local residents. We are asking for your support in the consultation and any subsequent discussions in Council.

This Downham filter has helped to reduce conflicts on the main Catford to Bromley cycle route (22) and encourage more walking and cycling in the area.

It's key that the filter is retained and achieves permanent status. The filter provides relief from rat-running traffic cutting through to nearby main roads, and is already providing safer and healthier access for people on foot and on bicycles to local amenities.

We also believe the retention of this filter will enable more local residents to choose active travel as a safe alternative to the dominance of the motor car. A recent survey showed that many people now in transport poverty have to allocate as much as 15% of household income to keeping their car on the road. We also know that around 45% of residents in the Borough don't have access to a car, and cycling is the best option we currently have to offer as a practical and cost effective alternative.





We strongly support the Council's ongoing efforts to combat climate change and urge them to reinvigorate the program of rolling-out similar Healthy Streets improvements right across the Borough. We are aware of several other Lewisham neighbourhoods where residents have been pressing for such improvements for a long time. Making healthy streets and reducing unnecessary car journeys helps to improve air quality and road safety, reduce congestion and make our neighbourhoods far more liveable.

## Tim Collingridge (Lewisham Cyclists Secretary) 20/1/23