



Contact: lewishamcyclists@gmail.com



Website: www.lewishamcyclists.org.uk

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: <https://pclengagement-hub.co.uk/en-GB/folders/lewisham-safer-streets>

As local Ward Councillors we are sure that you are aware of this current consultation on these modal filters in Sydenham. The consultation closes on Sunday 22nd January. The filters are key in enabling more active travel in the area and improving the environment for local residents. We are asking for your strong support in the consultation and any subsequent discussions in Council.

These two filters in Sydenham together have dramatically improved the conditions for cyclists on two busy cycle routes via Silverdale - from Brockley to Penge (route 62) and from Sydenham to Grove Park (26) and also improved active travel access to Mayow Park.

We have also been in correspondence with local residents in Bishopsthorpe Road who indicated that there is strong local support in Bishopsthorpe and Silverdale for the retention of these two filters due to the dramatic improvements in their local environment. They have also confirmed significant increases in people cycling in the area since they have been in place.

It's key that these filters are retained and achieve permanent status. Each 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.



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We also believe the retention of these filters 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 the reinvigoration of this 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