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Borough news and update from Get Sutton Cycling | March 2016

Imagine a better London: Sign for Cycling

In May 2016, London elects its next Mayor. LCC has just launched its biggest campaign yet, Sign for Cycling.

London currently stands at a crossroads. Population levels are rising, our streets and public transport are getting busier, our air is dangerously polluted, and pressure on residential parking is increasingly. The only way forward is to get more people out of their vehicles and into cycling and walking. To do this, the next Mayor must create more space for cycling, enable more local journeys to be made by bike, and tackle lorry danger.

You can tell the Mayoral candidates that you want a city that is greener, healthier and easier to get about. Imagine a better London. Please Sign the petition today at: www.signforcycling.org

Please get involved to help make a difference

We will be working hard to ensure that people in our borough support the campaign. If you would like to get involved to help spread the message by joining us handing out flyers, tag bikes, or to collect petition signatures, please contact us at getsuttoncycling@gmail.com. You can also find out more about supporting the campaign here: <http://bit.ly/ChampionLCC>.



Have you seen the borough's new Cycling Strategy?

Hopefully, by the time you read this, the borough's new Cycling Strategy, a document to guide decision making, will have been published. Members of the [Environment and Neighbourhood Committee](#) approved the borough's Cycling Strategy on 26 November 2015, with publication set for early in the New Year. As we go to press, nearly three months later, Sutton Council has still not released the final version of the strategy, but there is high expectation that publication is imminent.

The consultation on the draft strategy resulted in 163 online responses, about ten paper questionnaires returned, together with a number of more detailed responses from cycling groups and other stakeholders. The main changes to the final version are:

- **greater emphasis on infrastructure improvements;**
- **stronger commitment to the London Cycling Design Standards;**
- **amendments to short-term and medium-term timeframes;**
- **more detail on how the Council will develop and promote cycling schemes;**
- **more information on improving driver and cyclists behaviour;**
- **more information about maintenance of cycling routes and facilities.**

Time will tell whether this strategy successfully achieves its aims, which include **making cycling the mode of choice for short local journeys.**

Proposed cycle facilities on the Transport for London Road Network

The report 'Proposed Cycle Facilities on the Transport for London Road Network', an effective precursor to the review of our Space for Cycling 'ward asks', has now been favourably received by both the [Beddington and Wallington Committee](#) and the [Cheam North and Worcester Park Committee](#). These committees join the [Sutton Committee](#) and the [South Sutton, Cheam and Belmont Committee](#) in doing so. However, whether the TfL report will progress any further remains unclear.

At the most recent meeting of the [St Helier, The Wrythe and Wandle Valley Committee](#) on 28 January 2016, members agreed the revised set of draft minutes of their 8 October 2015 meeting. Consequentially, the report has not gained full backing from the five committees presented with it. Given that a prerequisite for it to be sent to TfL for consideration was that all five local committees have agreed to the recommendations, it looks as though the northern wards may have let the rest of the borough down. See [Notes from our January 2016 meeting](#) for the outcome of or formal complaint to the Council in regard to the proceedings and reporting of the agenda item at the St Helier, The Wrythe and Wandle valley committee on 8 October.

The review of our 'ward asks' for borough roads has still not been made available in the public domain.

Sutton 2031: planning for our future



On 18 February, Sutton Council launched a major consultation into the development and growth of the borough over the next 15 years. [Sutton 2031](#) asks people to help shape a new Local Plan, the document that provides the planning framework for future development. The consultation also includes the Sutton Town Centre Masterplan and London Cancer Hub Development Framework. Between 18 February and 8 April, local people are being encouraged to give their views online or to attend any of the 22 exhibitions and meetings to discuss the Local Plan with our planners. To find details, or take part in the consultation, visit www.sutton.gov.uk/sutton2031.

Just a pity that those tasked with producing the illustrations provided in the Sutton Town Centre Masterplan, appear not have been given space for cycling as part of their brief. Surprising, seeing that the borough's Sustainable Transport Strategy (June 2015) defines a road users hierarchy, which sets out how road users and associated transport schemes should be prioritised in Sutton, with consideration of pedestrians and cyclists above public transport and motorised traffic. Did anyone tell the masterplanners that?

Cycle tours with Cycling Champion

The seventh cycle tour with Cllr. Manuel Abellan took place on 6 February, with a focus on Boundary Road and Park Lane. It was good to be joined by Carshalton and Wallington MP Tom Brake too on this occasion. Look out for a review at [Get Sutton Cycling](#). A tour of [North Cheam and Worcester Park](#) had taken place on 18 December. A comprehensive

review of an earlier tour of [Beddington](#) has recently been made available online too.

Consultations: A consultation on a cycle contraflow for the one-way section of Manor Lane (The Broadway), in the Old Town area of Sutton town centre recently took place. See [Manor Lane cycling contraflow](#) for our response. Transport for London consult on [A24 Epsom Road Cycling Safety Improvements](#) until 11 March. It could be better.

Please get involved, please Sign for Cycling

If you can spare an hour or two during March and April to help promote Sign for Cycling, that will be fantastic. Find out more about supporting the campaign here: <http://bit.ly/ChampionLCC>, or send us a direct message by e-mail to getsuttoncycling@gmail.com.

Borough news and update from Get Sutton Cycling | March 2016 edited by Charles Martin (v1 22.02.2016 | Pages).

Newsletters are available to download from [Local Group News](#) at [London Cycling Campaign](#) and [Newsletters](#) at [Get Sutton Cycling](#).