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Borough news and update from Get Sutton Cycling | March 2019

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## Could this spring see a major step-forward in the way Sutton delivers on enabling active travel?

There is every reason for optimism at the start of 2019. On 5 March, Transport for London announced [the winners of the second round of Liveable Neighbourhoods](#) funding bids. Our congratulations go to the eleven successful councils, including our near neighbours [Croydon](#). Meanwhile, it has been confirmed that Sutton's first bid for Liveable Neighbourhoods funding, expected towards the end of 2019, will focus on Sutton town centre and beyond to include Sutton North, Sutton West and Sutton South wards. If successful, the bid will form part of the third round of Liveable Neighbourhoods bids, with funding from 2020. In addition, significant and positive news regarding [Sutton's first Quietway](#) (or Cycleway) linking Sutton town centre with Rose Hill and on towards Morden is expected soon too. Could this be a Quietway/Cycleway that, unlike many Quietways delivered since the former Mayor of London announced the programme in 2013, actually be 'quiet'?

At Liveable Neighbourhoods workshops, held in mid-December 2018 and late January 2019, London Borough of Sutton partners gave positive presentations. It was recognised that the Liveable Neighbourhoods funding process was highly competitive, and that bids need to be strong and to a standard that TfL will accept. Our [Space for Cycling ward 'asks'](#) from 2014 were also acknowledged and praised. More details of the ideas and plans for the bid will be made public once a feasibility stage has been reached, and once councillors have been updated and fully-briefed (and this, of course, is where [support from the Council Leader](#) Ruth Dombey will help). The development of [low-traffic neighbourhoods](#), and ways of linking these communities together so as to enable active travel and have a positive impact on the lives of people living and working there, is to be a major part of the bid. The amount of funding that the council will bid for (up to £10million) is not known. There is the expectation of a further meeting or workshop in April 2019.

Plans of the concept designs for Sutton's first Quietway, linking Morden with Sutton and developed in partnership between Sutton Council and Sustrans, have recently been sent to TfL for approval (details not known). An informal consultation is to take place in April, and so consequently there is the expectation that there will be news in relation to this at the forthcoming [Sutton Local Committee](#) meeting scheduled for 28 March 2019. The informal consultation in spring 2019 will be more than eighteen months after the first informal engagement with residents in the Grennell Road, Elgin Road and Benhill Wood Road in the summer of 2017. On that occasion, 65% of respondents thought there was too much traffic in the area and traffic was too fast. Again, TfL will only fund the project if the outcome reduces traffic speed and volume. It is understood that Will Norman, Walking and Cycling Commissioner, will be 'rebranding' Quietways as Cycleways in the summer of 2019.

From the March 2019 announcement of round 2 Liveable Neighbourhood bids, the message for success appears to be strong working partnerships between boroughs, the mayor's office and TfL, and for bids to include evidence of full stakeholder engagement. Engagement with local councillors, with campaigners, and with local residents, to ensure there is clear understanding of how everyone can benefit from the transformation or their neighbourhood.

Meanwhile, we will continue to push for the appointment of an active travel champion for each of the six local committees in the borough. It is important to have the conversation across all communities, and to ensure there is cross-party support.

# Third Local Implementation Plan

On 19 December 2018 we submitted [our response to the draft third Local Implementation Plan](#) (November 2018) consultation. The consultation related to the LIP's objectives and targets, due to come into effect from April 2019, and which demonstrated how the council would contribute to achieving the Mayor's Transport Strategy (March 2018) goals up to 2041. Although the draft plan identified many challenges, we felt that the opportunities outlined in the plan did not go far enough to achieve the aims of the MTS, and highlighted the lack of a commitment towards delivering a traffic reduction strategy. This concern has been further explored in '[What are Sutton's key borough traffic reduction objectives?](#)'.

It is understood that the council sent the draft third LIP to TfL on 2 November 2018 (the same day on which the consultation opened to the public), and then considered any comments or recommendations from TfL, along with responses from stakeholders, during January 2019. This resulted in the publication of a second draft third LIP, for Mayoral Approval (February 2019), which would have been sent to the GLA by 16 February 2019. Although a report entitled 'Local Implementation Plan Settlement for 2019/20 and LIP3 update', published for the [Environment and Neighbourhood Committee meeting on 7 March 2019](#), notes that "feedback from TfL has confirmed that the draft is of an acceptable standard and will meet the requirements of the MTS", Sutton's third LIP had not met with Mayoral Approval as of 9 April.

## Consultations

Everyone can get involved and discuss how we should respond to local consultations. Go to our [website](#) and look for the [Cyclescape](#) page, which links to our group on [Cyclescape](#)

Recent consultations

- [Wrythe Lane / Tweeddale Road / Thornton Road - proposed changes to junction](#) (January 2019)
- [Draft Air Quality Action Plan Consultation](#) (February 2019)

Upcoming consultations

- [Sutton's Parking Consultation Stage 1](#) (due March 3rd)
- [Demand Responsive Bus Trial](#) (due March 20th)

## Rides and events

More Local Events have been promoted on the LCC site including Women on Wheels, CTC Beginners (SW London), local Dr. Bikes, Adult cycle skills, etc. Go to our website and look for the links on our [Local Cycling Information](#) page. If you know of anything else that should be advertised let us know.

## Some headlines from our January 2019 meeting

- At the [Sutton Cycle Forum](#) meeting held on 5th February we were asked to demonstrate how we are using [Cyclescape](#) and discussed how this could help us work with Council Officers and Engineers going forwards.
- **Business cards** with our social media details and those of the LCC on the reverse have been printed and can be seen on display in local bike shops, Westcroft and the David Weir centre. Know where we could catch the eye of other potential members? Please let us know.
- **Bikefest** in Beddington Park is scheduled **21st September 2019**. Save the date and spread the word! It's early days but will be open to all forms of cycling including a pedalling cinema!
- A gate on the NCN208 by the A217 (Reigate Avenue Recreation Ground), which on occasion has been chained up by someone, is now open and kept open by Sutton council maintenance teams and the Safer Parks Police team. This was raised at Sutton Cycle Forum meetings with the council.

## National Cycle Network

We recently wrote to Sustrans asking them to consider de-designating the NCN208 and NCN20 (Wandle Trail) or improve the routes as part of their '[Paths for Everyone](#)' review.

## Get involved locally

Contact [SUTTON@LCC.ORG.UK](mailto:SUTTON@LCC.ORG.UK) if you're interested in doing some cycle campaigning or cycle activities in Sutton. We would also like to hear from you if you support our vision for better, healthier and safer streets for everyone in the borough.