

## building a better biking borough - part of London Cycling Campaign

#### A1000 cycleway

The council has confirmed that the implementation of any improvements to the A1000 cycleway are unlikely to happen before the next local elections in May 2026, due to delays with modelling the impact of proposals by Transport for London. Whilst we understand that these things take time, we are disappointed that scheme upgrade, which the council agreed to progress in early 2023, is taking so long.



Worn markings on the A1000

In the meantime, Barnet Cycling Campaign has completed a survey of current problems with the A1000, such as potholes, poor surfaces, and worn markings, and asked the council to prioritise these whilst we wait for the upgrade.

#### **North Finchley**

An outline planning application has been submitted to the council for the regeneration of North Finchley, and the council is also expecting money from TFL to improve bus journeys through the Town Centre. We will be submitting our thoughts on how cycling in the area could be improved as part of these proposals.

## **Transport Strategy**

Following our complaints that the council's new Transport Strategy was due to be signed off by the council in April without the opportunity to see any of the detail, the strategy will now be made available to the council's Overview and Scrutiny Committee in June, before it is signed off in July. We understand that the "detailed" strategy is unlikely to be very specific about what will be done to improve cycling infrastructure in the borough. We will be meeting Cllr Alan Schneiderman and council officers on June 13<sup>th</sup> once the strategy has been published to discuss it further.

# **Health and Wellbeing Strategy**

We couldn't quite believe it when we saw the draft Health and Well being strategy that was published by the council earlier this year – it made no mention of cycling, despite reams of evidence that cycling is good for physical and mental wellbeing.

We wrote to the council in March to point this out and highlight that if the council provided a better environment for cycling and walking that this could save the NHS a lot of money. We also brought their attention to a recent study published by the British Medical Journal<sup>1</sup> that showed that people who regularly commute by cycle are 45% less likely to suffer an early demise!

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Health benefits of pedestrian and cyclist commuting: evidence from the Scottish Longitudinal Study | BMJ Public Health <a href="https://bmjpublichealth.bmj.com/content/2/1/e001295">https://bmjpublichealth.bmj.com/content/2/1/e001295</a>

The final version of the strategy is due to be presented to the Health and Well Being Board on 22 May – we hope that this includes more about active travel and cycling.

#### **Barnet Loop/ cycleways**

In 2023, the council told us that it is developing plans for an 18-mile cycle loop around the borough and plans for a wider cycle network across the borough. So far, a mile of the Barnet Loop has been completed in Colindale, and we understand that the council hopes to complete sections from Colindale to West Hendon and through the Dollis Valley Greenway and Barnet Playing Fields over the coming year and will be holding a workshop with us about the designs of these.

The council has also secured some TFL funding for some smaller cycling projects, and we have asked for more information about this.

#### **London Cycling Festival 25 May**

As Barnet Council are not able to support an event in our borough, we are working with Enfield Cycling Club and hope to be leading a feeder ride to their event on this date. Details to follow.

There are also events in other parts of London, including neighbouring Brent and Harrow, details of which can be found at LCC website <u>London Cycling Festival Map - London Cycling Campaign</u>

## Mass Flyering event 10 June

London Cycling Campaign are encouraging all borough groups across the Capital to hand out flyers about joining the LCC during the morning and evening rush hours. We will be doing this in East Finchley and Cricklewood. If you would like to get involved please contact Paul Shipway booneysbikes@hotmail.com

#### East Finchley Festival Sunday 22 June

Come and say hello to us at the East Finchley Festival, where we will have a stall, in conjunction with Mums for Lungs and Barnet Cyclists. Dr. Bike will also be present so bring your bike along if it needs attention!

If you can help out on the stall – please let us know by contacting Paul Shipway, booneysbikes@hotmail.com

#### **Getting Involved**

We meet on the last Thursday of every month at Trinity Church Hall, Nether Street N12 at 7.00 pm.

Our next meeting is on Thursday 29 May.

For more information, please contact Paul Shipway booneysbikes@hotmail.com