

Southwark Cyclists

Response to the Southwark Transport Plan

Southwark Cyclists have the following comments:

1. As in the attached Vision document. The key message from this is that we aspire to more ambitious targets and actions to achieve them
2. On the Cyclist Casualty targets:

The strategy in the Plan relies on:

- A programme of tailored cyclist training and driver training and education.
- Working with the police on enforcement when no strategy for that appears in the plan.
- The requirement of the TLRN to deliver cyclist casualty reductions. Although the introduction of the east-west cycle superhighway may help improve cyclist casualties (equally it might make things worse if many novice cyclists are drawn to the TLRN), it is important to note that, across London, the TLRN has delivered **NO** reductions in the numbers of cyclists killed and seriously injured. 136 cyclists were killed or seriously injured on the TLRN in the 1994-98 baseline period. The number was the same in 2009. The trajectory on the TLRN has been one of increase in recent years. In 2005 there were 110 cyclists killed or seriously injured; in 2006 – 115; 2007 – 147; and in 2008 133. Clearly the TLRN is a place of increasing rather than decreasing danger for cyclists. Moreover, in 2009 cyclists accounted for 15% of all who are killed or seriously injured on the TLRN compared to just 8% in the 1994-98 baseline period. Policies to reduce danger along the length of the TLRN are needed.
- The TLRN will not deliver declines in cyclist casualties (as is required on page 108 of the Southwark Transport Plan). To achieve the Council targets, almost all of the reduction will have to come from borough roads. Across London borough roads had, according to data for 2009, delivered a 31% fall in pedal cyclist killed and seriously injured over the 1994-98 baseline.

We believe that stronger measures are needed to meet the casualty targets.

3. We strongly support the comments in the response by Southwark Living Streets.

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Alex Crawford, Southwark Cyclists Action Group

On behalf of Southwark Cyclists
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