

A VISION FOR CYCLING

Southwark Green Party



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Making streets safe and pleasant for cycling and walking is central to our vision for Southwark.

This single achievement would address health problems like obesity and air pollution, help with the cost of living when fares and petrol costs are rising, boost trade in local shops, and reduce the number of people injured or killed on our streets. Above all, cycling is fun and friendly – we want more people to be able to enjoy it.

We fully support the Space4Cycling campaign, and Green Party politicians and members have been active in promoting its principles. We would aim for 10% of trips to be made by bike by 2018 and 25% by 2025, with an emphasis on areas with good cycling potential and poor public transport like north Peckham. We would achieve our aims in Southwark with the following policies:

1. Make active travel and air pollution reduction the borough's public health priorities.
2. Introduce 20mph speed limits on **all** streets in Southwark (lobbying TfL where necessary). Engage with the police and communities on enforcement. Develop a public education programme for drivers through council media such as websites, Southwark Life and community meetings.
3. Provide safe, dedicated space for cyclists on main roads, including converting advisory cycle lanes into semi-segregated lanes. Put pressure on TfL to adopt adequate standards for Cycle Superhighways and fix problems on existing routes.
4. Work with TfL and Southwark Cyclists to re-engineer dangerous junctions, reallocating road space from cars and car parking to ensure a safe design that can cope with much higher volumes of cyclists.
5. Apply the 'filtered permeability' principle to all transport projects, transforming the borough over the next four years to reduce rat running and provide low-traffic routes for less confident cyclists.

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6. Encourage schools to take up the cycle training to which pupils are entitled by publicising the scheme to teachers and governors. Involve parents and help them find good routes to school, shops and friends.
7. Expand on-street cycle parking, taking space from car parking where necessary, to ensure people in flats have somewhere secure and covered to park their bike. Increase the budget for secure cycle parking on housing estates. Simplify the planning process for householders and landlords willing to install front garden cycle lockers and introduce a bulk-buy scheme (similar to that for compost bins and water butts).
8. Create an integrated network across the borough that includes the Quietways, Central London Grid and Cycle Superhighways and roads on the existing London Cycle Network so that cyclists are not limited to specific routes. Set targets for making roads progressively safer so that they can be used by all ages and abilities. Integrate these into the Transport Plan and local planning policy, reinstating policies removed by the current administration.
9. Work with TfL and Network Rail to provide secure parking stands in adequate numbers at stations and bus hubs to allow people to mix and match walking, cycling and public transport.
10. Provide in-kind support to cycling community projects such as those that combine health, cycle training and social rides (e.g. by printing leaflets and providing storage space).

Some of what we've done in Southwark Green Party to advance our vision on cycling:

- campaigned for a 20 m.p.h. speed limit through Peckham and Camberwell (November 2011)
- surveyed residents of East Dulwich on their cycling experience and how to improve it (2011)
- cycled with Critical Mass and the Londoners on Bikes 'Vote Bike' campaign (April 2012)
- joined the largest ever campaigning cycle ride in London, cycling from Peckham Rye with the LCC (April 2012)
- petitioned the council to take action on air pollution and triggered a full council debate (April 2013)
- spotted the council's failure to follow its own policy on speed bumps in Camberwell - and got them fixed (March 2014)