

GREATER LONDON AUTHORITY

[REDACTED]
(By email)

Our Ref: MGLA200220-3247

3 March 2020

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your request for information which the Greater London Authority (GLA) received on 19 February. Your request has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act (FOI) 2000.

You asked for:

...the wording of notes of discussions held and agreements made between Heidi Alexander Deputy Mayor of the GLA and Cllr Stephen Cowan the Leader of Hammersmith and Fulham Council (LBHF).

The subject matter relates to the design and delivery of the Cycleway between Kensington Olympia and Brentford Town Centre within LBHF, and any associated public realm work.

Our response to your request is as follows:

Please find attached the information we have identified as within scope of your request.

If you have any further questions relating to this matter, please contact me, quoting the reference at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Information Governance Officer

If you are unhappy with the way the GLA has handled your request, you may complain using the GLA's FOI complaints and internal review procedure, available at:

<https://www.london.gov.uk/about-us/governance-and-spending/sharing-our-information/freedom-information>

[REDACTED]

From: Heidi Alexander
Sent: 16 January 2019 17:30
To: stephen.cowan@lbhf.gov.uk
Cc: Will Norman [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: New Hammersmith Cycle Routes - taking forward our discussion

Hi Stephen

I've just seen your press release about the cycle ways on King Street and the A4 - all good stuff. In terms of next steps, I'll ask the team here to work with your officers to agree the response to issues raised from the consultation and look to publish this together as soon as we can.

With best wishes

Heidi

From: Heidi Alexander [REDACTED]@london.gov.uk>
Sent: Friday, December 28, 2018 15:05
To: stephen.cowan@lbhf.gov.uk
Cc: [REDACTED] Will Norman; [REDACTED]@lbhf.gov.uk
Subject: New Hammersmith Cycle Routes - taking forward our discussion

Hi Steve

Hope you are well. I just wanted to follow up on the discussion we had about cycle routes at the end of November. Following our conversation, TfL officers have updated the 'Response to Issues Raised' consultation report which now includes the items we agreed such as committing to higher quality urban realm materials along King Street and removing the 'Cycle Superhighway' brand with its negative connotations. They have also included the commitment that TfL will provide funding to improve the quality of the cycle facilities along the A4, including links to this scheme. Your officers have kindly reviewed the latest draft of the report and are happy with these amendments.

I have asked TfL to continue to work closely with your officers as they prepare to publish the report and launch the further, smaller consultation in the new year on 30 January 2019. This includes the new pedestrian crossing and coach parking near Latymer Upper School, in response to feedback received. The final report and draft consultation materials will be provided to your officers for input in advance of the print deadline on 11 January 2019.

As we prepare for this, I am keen to discuss how we could jointly pre-engage with local businesses and Councillors. It would be great to do some joint press work with you on this but we will be guided by you.

Let me know what you think.

Heidi

PS – I think James Murray and I should come and see in the new year to discuss the other live issue we are dealing with. I will ask [REDACTED] in my office to get something set up.

[REDACTED]

From: Heidi Alexander [REDACTED]@london.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 November 2018 17:18
To: stephen.cowan@lbhf.gov.uk
Cc: Will Norman; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]
Subject: Cycle routes - Hammersmith

Dear Steve

I thought it would be useful to follow up on the discussion we had at the end of September about Cycle Superhighway 9 (CS9).

Last year, as you will know, TfL and LBHF jointly consulted on the detailed proposals of the cycle route. The aim of making the A315 corridor safer for cycling and walking was supported by the Council and a clear majority of 6000 people who responded. As with all consultations, concerns and issues were raised and TfL has been working with your officers to address these.

We are now in a position where we are able to publish our 'Response to Issues Raised' that details how we have responded to views of the local community as well as a wide range of stakeholder and accessibility groups and how we have taken these on board to improve the scheme. In Hammersmith and Fulham this includes revising the design outside of Latymer School, adding a new pedestrian crossing and additional coach parking.

When we met last month we talked about your medium-term ambitions to remove traffic from King Street as part of the future transformation of this area. I recognise and applaud the aspirations you have and I have asked TfL to work with you on how such a scheme may be delivered over the medium term. However, I hope we can also move ahead in the short term with providing the safer cycle route along the A315. Given that over a three year period this route has seen 55 recorded pedestrian collisions and 81 cyclists involved in a collision, I think we would both agree improving safety has to be a priority. As we discussed when we met, large-scale transformative schemes are not without challenges and dealing with the complexities of numerous bus routes, business and residential access and re-routing traffic will take time to plan.

In the meantime we have the opportunity to start construction of a safer cycle way along King Street early next year, including the long-awaited improvements to the Hammersmith Gyratory which are only possible with the associated changes to King Street.

I very much hope we can continue to work together in delivering safer routes for cyclists in Hammersmith in a way that can accommodate your future plans for the area.

We would be willing to look at the detail of the design of the cycle route on King Street, for example considering the use of temporary materials which would be easy to adapt when your pedestrianisation scheme is developed and agreed. Taking this approach would minimise waste and spending. At the same time I think we can improve the designs along King Street to immediately enhance the urban realm, making it a better environment for shoppers and visitors to the area, and ultimately an exemplar of a Healthy Street.

I would also be happy to offer some technical support from officers at TfL to help with your emerging plans, such as thinking about what changes to the bus network would be required and building upon equality and diversity factors already considered. They would also be able to look at some improvements to the cycling facilities along the short section of the A4 we visited (between Hammersmith Town Hall and the Gyratory). I have asked TfL officers to explore what funds they might be able to make available for these purposes and to discuss the scope of potential work with your officers.

As I said when we met, I am also in agreement about the difficulties with the "Cycle Superhighway" branding and have no aversion to dropping this terminology from the A315 route when it is built. We are developing a new, simple brand, and would be delighted to announce this new way forward for this route with you.

In terms of next steps for the project, I am keen to publish the 'Response to Issues Raised' consultation report this year and launch three new consultations where we have updated our plans following feedback received.

I hope this is an agreeable way forward. I will ask TfL to talk to your officers about our preferred publication date for the 'Response to Issues Raised' report and to explore details of the other enhancements and opportunities referenced above.

Let me know your thoughts.

Best wishes

Heidi

Heidi Alexander | Deputy Mayor for Transport
City Hall | The Queen's Walk | London | SE1 2AA