

London Cycling Campaign

31 October 2016

http://www.hounslow.gov.uk/churchstreet_faqs

This letter is sent on behalf of the London Cycling Campaign, the capital's leading cycling organisation with more than 12,000 members and 40,000 supporters. And it was written with input from the co-chairs of LCC's Infrastructure Review Group and in support of the previous response from Hounslow Cycling Campaign, the borough group.

The London Cycling Campaign would like to support the closure of Church Street on the basis of the data collected so far. Across London, councils are facing significant resident opposition to "modal filter" schemes such as this. And here expressions of opposition currently outweigh those of support. However, it is clear that those expressions are based on fear of change rather than evidence - as the evidence clearly demonstrates that a) overall, there are fewer people driving through the area - reducing pollution, and increasing health through increased cycling and walking across the area, and that b) fears of delays and increased congestion are not well founded - with minor delays on some streets offset by gains on others etc. and overall no severe delays introduced to those driving in or through the area.

For all the reasons listed above, Hounslow Council should make the scheme permanent on completion of the trial (presuming data at close is broadly in line with current data, or better - as traffic patterns settle further). Hounslow council should also not appease those opposed to the current scheme by further modifications to main roads and junctions in the vicinity aimed at increasing motor vehicle capacity, as impacts are not large, particularly in the case where any modifications would decrease amenity for pedestrians or those cycling.