Waterloo Bridge/Lancaster Place consultation response 23 December 2015

The London Cycling Campaign is the capital's leading cycling organisation with more than 12,000 members and 40,000 supporters. We welcome the opportunity to comment on these plans. Our response has been developed with input from the chairs of our Infrastructure Review Group and the Westminster Cycling Campaign, our borough group.

This scheme at present retains significant risks and "critical fails" as per TfL's London Cycle Design Standards "Cycling Level of Service" (CLoS) system. The approach from Lancaster Place to The Strand forces cyclists going ahead to cross congested into a narrow feeder lane. In the same direction, the bus/cycle lane has a width of 3.5m – which is in the 3.2-4.0m considered a critical fail in CLoS. We recognise these issues may fall partially beyond the remit of the current scheme, but it is important to raise these broader issues for consideration at any point works are to be carried out at this junction.

The proposed southbound cycle lane is welcome at 2m with double yellows and mandatory marking. But is only a mandatory lane – properly protected safe space for cycling should be considered to enable many more cyclists to access the proposed Quietway to the north etc. In the same vein, a relocation of the bus stop on the eastern side of Lancaster Place could result in avoiding a break in cycling infrastructure.

The junction of the Strand and Lancaster Place could also relatively easily be improved with cycle tracks running up to the junction, and lights phasings to coincide with cyclists coming out of Wellington Street.

Finally, and in general, the London Cycling Campaign would like to see all schemes given a CLoS rating (as well as adhering to the latest London Cycle Design Standards) that demonstrates significant improvement from the current layout will be achieved for cycling, and that eliminates all "critical fails" in any proposed design before being funded for construction, let alone public consultation.