

Response to Sutton Tram Link consultation.

By email to consultations@tfl.gov.uk

Our response

This response is from Get Sutton Cycling, the local borough group of London Cycling Campaign (LCC). We represent the interests of cyclists living or working in Sutton and aim to expand the opportunities for all to cycle safely in the borough. We have discussed this consultation on CycleScape¹ and at our committee meeting.

Get Sutton Cycling see the Sutton Link as an opportunity to include transformative changes to the cycling landscape, whether delivered as a tram or Bus Rapid Transit project, and regardless of the route option chosen. We are pleased that the consultation documentation notes that "our city is facing an inactivity crisis and transport has a crucial role in the health of all Londoners", and that "the Sutton Link would not just be a new type of zero-emission transport for the neighbourhoods it served; it would enable more active journeys, whether through walking, using public transport, cycling or a mix of all three".

To ensure that the Sutton Link fully delivers on the remit of active travel, we would expect the project to include the provision of dedicated, safe, cycle paths, with robust traffic intersections and junctions, to ensure that there are comfortable links between tram stops and the surrounding residential and commercial districts for people of all ages and abilities.

Physically protected cycle paths on busier roads would need to be created by taking space from the carriageway, and not the footway, to discourage the use of the private car, along with extensive use low-traffic neighbourhoods (as part of the Healthy Streets approach). Where appropriate the opportunity to create Continuous Footways would encouraging pedestrian (and cycle where relevant) priority over turning drivers.

Careful attention will be required when facilitating tram crossing points for cyclists ensuring these are designed carefully with latest materials to avoid tramlining incidents and work with projects like the Town Centre Master Plan.

In addition, comprehensive, secure, cycle parking provision or cycle hubs at all tram station/stops would be expected, along with the inclusion of cycle hire 'floating transport' facilities (especially important given the likely timescale of the project).

Prepared by Marcus Howarth and Charles Martin

Get Sutton Cycling.

6th January 2019.

1 <https://getsuttoncycling.cyclescape.org/>