

Camden Cycling Campaign

14th December 2022

To: CGengagement@westminster.gov.uk, safetravel@camden.gov.uk

cc: Sam Margolis (LBC), David Harrison (LLS)

Covent Garden Neighbourhood Traffic Management Scheme

This response to the consultation on the above proposal from Camden and Westminster Councils is from Camden Cycling Campaign, the local borough group of London Cycling Campaign. We represent the interests of cyclists living or working in or travelling through Camden and aim to expand the opportunities for all to cycle safely in the borough. We have discussed this consultation with our members by email.

The changes to the Covent Garden and Seven Dials area have made a very positive difference to the area by restricting motor vehicles and cutting out much of the through-traffic and we fully support the proposal to make the changes permanent.

We also support the planned changes to Monmouth Street between Tower Street and Shelton Street which we think will greatly improve the streetscape and take advantage of the closure to motor traffic.

We were pleased to see the improvements in permeability for cycling in the Seven Dials area by introducing two-way cycling on most of the streets.

However, we are disappointed that several rat-runs still exist in the southern part of the area, mostly in Westminster, and ask that the councils work to remove these. We referred to these in our response to the trial consultation (attached); in summary they are:

1. Between Aldwych and Kingsway via Drury Lane and Great Queen Street
2. Between Kingsway and Charing Cross Road via Gt Queen St, Long Acre, Endell St, Shelton Street, Upper St Martin's Lane and Cranbourn Street
3. From the Aldwych to Charing Cross Road via Drury Lane or Bow Street and then Endell Street, Shelton Street, Upper St Martin's Lane and Cranbourn Street
4. From High Holborn to Charing Cross Road via Endell Street, Shelton Street, Upper St Martin's Lane and Cranbourn Street
5. Between Charing Cross Road and the Strand via Great Newport Street, Garrick Street and Bedford Street

We are particularly concerned about the effects on Great Queen Street and on Endell Street, both of which are on cycle routes. We therefore ask that a filtering scheme be put in place, for example, as suggested in our response to the trial consultation.

Finally, as part of making the scheme permanent we hope that some of the road surfaces, especially on Monmouth Street, can be improved by relaying some of the setts and replacing them where there is tarmac.

Please acknowledge receipt of this response. We would be very happy to discuss any aspect of our comments; contact details are below.

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Camden Cycling Campaign, 1 Estelle Road, London NW3 2JX

Attachment:

<https://camdencyclists.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Response-from-CCC-to-consultation-on-Covent-Garden.pdf>