

To: safetravel@camden.gov.uk:

Raveley and Lupton Street Home Zone Safe and Healthy Streets

This response to the consultation on the above proposal from Camden Council is from Camden Cycling Campaign, the local borough group of the 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 proposal within our committee by email.

General Comments

Reduction of traffic

We support the introduction of measures to reduce the traffic in this residential and school area. Peak traffic levels are caused by motor vehicles cutting through the area to avoid queues on Brecknock Road.

Journeys to schools

We encourage the council to consider the boundaries of the scheme where it meets Brecknock Road, Lady Margaret Road and Fortress Road and to ensure there are measures in place to enable pedestrians and cyclists to cross these busy roads.

Specific Comments

In response to the specific items raised in the consultation:

1. We support the extension of the Healthy School Streets to include the full lengths of Raveley Street and Lupton Road. We encourage Camden to extend the afternoon timing to 4:45 to benefit families using after school clubs.
2. We support the trial one-way system on Raveley Street and Lupton Road. However both sections have continuous parking along both sides making it difficult for contraflow cyclists to pass oncoming motor vehicles. Safety could be improved by the removal of one or two resident parking bays. This would provide passing places to better support contraflow cycling.
3. We support the signage & enforcement camera on Raveley (west). Enforcement is much needed here as mopeds and motorcycles frequently cut through the Home Zone area.
4. We support the removal of resident bays outside the school to provide a safer and healthier area for children arriving and leaving the school.
5. We support the low level planting and play equipment outside the school to enhance the utility, look and feel of the area.
6. We support low level planting in the wider area to improve the look and to support biodiversity.
7. We support the additional Sheffield parking stands to increase cycle parking spaces.
8. We support the additional bike hangars, but urge Camden to introduce additional hangars on Raveley Street given the high demand in the area.

9. We support the dockless bike & scooter hire on Raveley (west). We encourage Camden to consider docked hire as a better alternative. Docking stations have the potential to be used for charging and reduce the need for hire companies to drive between docking stations to collect or recharge bikes.
10. We support the additional EV charging on Raveley (east).

In addition, we make the following recommendations:

- The route between Raveley Street and Lady Somerset Road on the west boundary of this scheme involves crossing Fortress Road. This busy road is a barrier discouraging children from making their journey to school by bicycle. Camden should extend the scheme to include a parallel crossing or alternative provision for safe cycling across this junction. This junction was identified in a 2019/20 survey conducted by Camden Cyclists on the barriers that discourage or prevent families from cycling to school in Camden¹.
- The junction between Raveley Street and Lady Margaret Road on the east boundary of the scheme should be improved. There is poor visibility for cyclists turning right out of Raveley Street. Drivers often accelerate over the crest of the hill on Lady Margaret Road making it difficult to manage, especially for children. This is a popular route for cyclists wishing to avoid Brecknock Road to reach local shops and the York Way infrastructure. Camden should remove parking on Lady Margaret Road to the right of the junction to improve safety for cyclists.
- The junction between Lupton Street, Brecknock Road and Southcote Road at the north of the scheme should have new parallel crossing to improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists crossing Brecknock Road at this point.
- The junction between Lady Margaret Road and Brecknock Road should be upgraded to a parallel crossing to improve safety for cyclists crossing Brecknock Road to enter and leave the scheme.

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

Suzanne Weller, Jean Dollimore, John Chamberlain, Sam Parkes, Peter Joanes, Steve Prowse

suzanne@camdencyclists.org.uk

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

¹ <https://camdencyclists.org.uk/campaigns/current-campaigns/barriers-cycling-to-school/>