

Extract from the London Liberal Democrat manifesto for the 2012 Mayoral and London Assembly Elections



Serious solutions for London

A Liberal Democrat Mayor and Assembly ambitious for London's cyclists

Encouraging cycling

Cycling has more than doubled over the last 10 years and is now an integral part of London's transport network. If more people are to feel safe and want to cycle, simply painting more blue lines on a few major roads is not the answer – a further step-change in the scale of cycling in London will ultimately require more effective segregation for safety, as the Dutch have found.

We will:

- install many more 'trixi' mirrors at road junctions to help drivers of large vehicles see cyclists
- immediately review all major junctions and roundabouts to improve safety, including giving cyclists priority at junctions
- where practicable, separate and protect cyclists from other road users, with other traffic calming measures where not practicable (such as narrow or crowded streets)
- enforce penalties against those few cyclists who ignore red lights, cycle on pavements and use mobile phones. With greater investment made in cycling, it is only fair that all cyclists show consideration for pedestrians and other road users
- give much more support for people looking to start cycling, including cycle safety training, with every person attending a training course entitled through sponsorship, to discounts on safety gear

- promote an ambitious programme of cycle safety across London

Making the Cycle Hire scheme work for all of London

Part of encouraging cycling is making the cycle hire scheme work much better. Satisfaction of those who register and actually use a bike is dropping, while many find the casual users' scheme too complicated. The Liberal Democrats first advocated a bike hire scheme in 2001 and want to make sure it works for the widest range of Londoners. Generating more income will come through greater usage by many more people.

We will:

- promote the scheme to groups who are not using it regularly, particularly women and younger adults who live in London
- make the scheme easier to use for casual users with a 'one swipe' facility
- expand to south London and further into north London
- require the contractor to improve overall service levels including the distribution of bikes or face tough penalties
- increase the annual membership fee to non-Londoners
- introduce special 'limited edition' bikes to celebrate key events such as the Diamond Jubilee, Pride and the 2012 Games and to put some fun back into the scheme