

MERTON CYCLING CAMPAIGN



Issue 81

Newsletter

Winter 2018

Have your say on the Merton Local Plan before 6 January 2019



Merton Council are consulting on their new Local Plan 2020, which will be used as the basis for planning decisions in the future. Planning decisions are one of the ways in which cycling policies are put into practice, so it's really important that the Local Plan incorporates strong commitments to cycling and active transport.

MCC will be submitting a response to the Draft Plan, and we would love to hear your views to incorporate into our response. Comment on Cycle Scape or email hello@mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk

Find out more at www.merton.gov.uk/newlocalplan - the draft Cycling policy is set out in the Infrastructure section, and you can also find out how to submit your individual comments or view hard copies of the documents. (The Plan also covers policy on housing, design, schools, healthcare, streets, travel, utilities, waste, open space, playspace, air quality and the economy, so you may find you have lots of things you want to comment on!)

TfL Consulting on Sutton Link until 6 January 2018

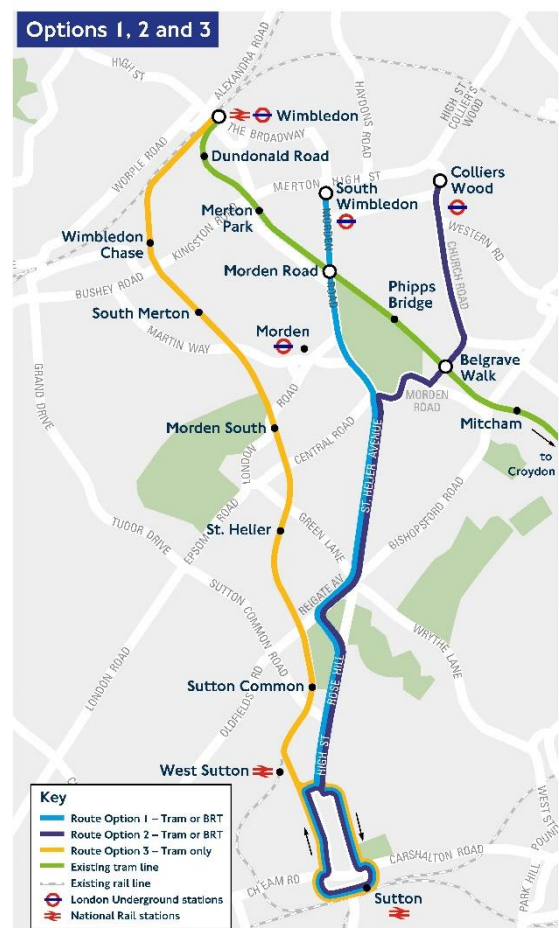
TfL are consulting on a proposed new transport link between Sutton and Merton called the Sutton Link. They are seeking views on three route options and whether a tram or Bus Rapid Transport (BRT) service would provide the best service.

We broadly welcome improvements to the public transport in Merton and the neighbouring boroughs as it reduces car use and improves air quality. We'll be pushing to ensure that the proposals don't negatively impact on cycle routes, that the proposed stations and stops have good cycling and walking routes to them and that the space for the final scheme comes from private car lanes, not cycling space. If the tram is the eventually chosen then any places where cyclists cross the tracks must be well designed with the latest materials to avoid tramlining incidents.

MCC will be submitting a response to the consultation and would love to hear your views to feed into our response.

How you can have your say

- Go to CycleSpace and comment on the proposals at <https://bit.ly/2POzoEW> or email hello@mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk and we'll consider them as part of our response.
- **Complete TfL's online survey by Sunday 6 January 2019** www.tfl.gov.uk/sutton-link



Save the Date! Winter Warmer Ride 6 January 2019

After all that consultation closes we thought it might be nice to do some actual cycling!

Join us on Sunday 6th January for cycle tour of the borough and a sociable lunch. We'll be meeting outside The Sultan at 10.30 and sticking as closely as possible to the Borough boundary, taking in West Tooting, Mitcham, the edge of New Malden, The Common*, The Village and The Wandle. It's 17 miles all the way round, with the pace set to 'leisurely' (if you're a racer, wrap up warm). We'll finish at The Sultan, where we'll have lunch and a beer.



Meet: 10:30 on 6 January, The Sultan, 78 Norman Rd, London SW19 1BT; Find out more at www.mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk

*If you don't like mud, there'll be an on-road detour, rejoining the main ride in The Village.

Committee confirmed at Annual Meeting

We held our annual meeting for MCC as part of our monthly meeting on Thursday 4th October. Borough Co-ordinator Kathryn provided the annual report on our achievements over the last year – you can read more on our website www.mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk) but here's a summary:

Merton Cycling Campaign have had a busy year, welcoming new members and seeing some of our 'newer' initiatives beginning to turn into 'what we do'. As a group I am grateful for and proud of the support that the whole membership has shown me in my co-ordinator role, stepping up to share responsibility for chairing meetings, respond to queries, represent the group in different forums, and promote activity on social media.

A large part of the year has been dominated by the Local Authority elections in May, and our regular Borough Liaison Meetings have continued to hold Merton to account, whilst we've also began to explore other ways that we can push for improvements. In policy terms we have strong foundations on which to build.

At our January meeting this year we took stock of what we wanted to achieve in relation to our three objectives to:

- *Raising awareness of cycling issues in the borough*
- *Campaigning to improve conditions for cycling in the borough*
- *Providing a range of services for members*

We've made good starts on all of these, but there is room to do more.

Kathryn, Hugh, David and Philip were returned to their positions of Co-ordinator, Engineering Matters, Treasurer and Secretary. However, Philip announced his intention to hang up his pen and pencil next year, so we will be on the hunt for a new Secretary!

We're always keen to welcome cyclists of all frequencies, types and speeds to get involved so if you want to be part of making Merton a better borough for cycling and active transport, please get in touch.

MCC Meetings are on the first Thursday of every month
8pm, All Saints Centre, All Saints Road, SW19 1BX

Web: mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk

Facebook: [facebook.com/mertoncyclists](https://www.facebook.com/mertoncyclists)

Twitter: @LCCinMerton

Email: hello@mertoncyclingcampaign.org.uk

MCC is the Merton branch of the London Cycling Campaign