

DEPUTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

One deputation has been referred from Council on 20 October 2011. The Cabinet Member will note the response given at that meeting and provide an update where appropriate.

(a) Deputation to allow Motorcycles, Scooters (Powered 2 Wheelers) legal access to the Brighton and Hove controlled bus lanes– Mr Simon Frampton (Spokesperson)

“The Motorcycle Action Group or, MAG as we are widely known, is an association of Motorcyclist’s and Scooter riders who lobby; Members of Parliament, Members of the European Parliament, Local Councillors, County Councils, Transport Associations, on matters that, directly or indirectly affect motorised 2 and 3 wheel transport. MAG would like to help Brighton and Hove on its path to ‘Sustainable’ status by helping to ease congestion on the City Centre routes.

If, Motorcycles, Scooters and all powered two wheelers were allowed to use the bus lanes this would remove them from the normal flow of traffic, help the users and owners to get into the City Centre quicker therefore reducing emissions. We can supply evidence to support this.

Extensive studies have been done showing time saved, reduced emissions and accident rates. Stakeholders will need to be consulted in this process, Cyclists, Buses, Taxis, and Pedestrians. We are happy to supply historic evidence for these consultations that have been untaken before. Generally the outcome of these consultations is positive but we still have stakeholders that are not in favour. Slowly the majority of these are being won over with the passage of time. Cost; the cost to a council is generally £100 per traffic order along with the placing of the Motorcycle profile to the bus lane signs. Opening 1 x bus lane equates to 1 x traffic order. The Motorcycle decal is now readily available so signs do not need replacing.

Advantages; help with reducing emissions in and around the City centres, safer faster travel for motorcycles and scooters, reduction of cars entering and parking in the City Centres. If 8 car drivers are encouraged on to Motorcycles and / Scooters you could fit those 8 into 1 car bay! Code of Conduct; there is an established code of conduct issued to every motorcyclist and scooter rider for them to adhere to.”

Response from Councillor Davey at the Council meeting of 20 October 2011

“I’m glad you followed up on my suggestion to engage with the Local Authority. I am also pleased that MAG is now represented on the Transport Partnership and I know your colleagues have given an effective voice to power two wheeler users. This is clearly a complex road safety issue and there will

be many different views on it as we've already heard so I think we're in the start of the process.

As I've already said to some of your colleagues, I remember you saying you'd looked at the Local Transport Plan and you didn't think you could spot the word motorcycle that is something we want to change. I do see powered two wheelers as being part of the transport solutions in the city but this isn't something we can just rush into. It would also involve working with East Sussex because, clearly, the A259 Bus lane runs/starts/ends in East Sussex depending on which way you are going.

I think it would be very helpful, if you haven't already done so, to share the information that you have with Council officers and what I'll ask for is that they can provide a report that will summarise the issues, look at the evidence elsewhere and then we can look at that in the new year and take that forward as part of the continuing dialogue on this one."