

Feedback from LSTF Lewes Road Consultations

1. Background

In April 2011, Brighton & Hove City Council was successful in bidding for £4.2 million funding from the government's Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) to improve transport in the Lewes Road area. The funding is aimed at creating growth and reducing carbon emissions and will enable the council to tackle some of the difficulties experienced by those using this route in and out of the city.

A number of public exhibitions were held in the LSTF area in November & December 2011. Information gathered at these road shows will be used to help inform the nature of the works carried out in the area. A questionnaire was available for attendees to complete at the exhibitions and also made available online. This document outlines the views expressed at the exhibitions and through the questionnaires.

2. Methodology

Public exhibitions were held in community buildings located throughout the LSTF area in November & December 2011. Events were held in the following locations:

- Hollingdean Community Centre
- Larchwood Café - Coldean
- Hanover Community Centre
- Bevendean Church Hall
- Moulsecoomb Leisure Centre
- Moulsecoomb Hall (Bates Estate)
- United Reformed Church (Saunders Park Estate)
- University of Brighton – Falmer & Moulsecoomb Campuses
- University of Sussex

Officers also attended several Local Action Team and other community group meetings as part of the consultation.

The events were advertised in The Argus, on the Council's website, through the Community & Voluntary Sector Forum (CVSF) and through a wide range of existing community group contacts. Events held at the universities were heavily promoted through established internal mechanisms.

3. Headline Results

- In total, 556 responses were received; 372 of these (67%) were received online through the council's consultation portal and 184 (33%) were completed at exhibitions.
- The most **commonly** used form of transport in the area is bus (72%) and walking (67%). Whilst car as driver is 43% and as a passenger is 26% so the combined rate for car use is 69%.

- The individual most **frequently** used form of transport is bus (38%) and cycling at 35%. Whilst car as driver is 25% and 7% as a passenger, giving a combined rate for car use of 32%.
- The overall experience of respondents travelling along Lewes Road using their usual mode of transport is predominantly poor or very poor (44.1%), whereas only 23.9% felt it is good or very good.
- The most common transport problems in the area are traffic congestion (68%), inconsiderately parked vehicles (54.1%) and a perception that it is unsafe to cycle (51.8%).
- The most commonly requested transport improvements were cycling improvements (57.2%), improved traffic flow (44.2%) and improved road safety (31.7%).

4. Detailed Results

Note: The percentages in some of the tables below do not add up to 100 as they have been calculated based on the total number of respondents (556) as opposed to the total number of options chosen per question.

Q1 What forms of transport do you use to travel along Lewes Road and in the surrounding area? (Respondents could tick more than one option to show the full range of transport modes used)

Mode of transport	No.	% of total respondents
Bus	398	72
Walk	372	67
Cycle	266	48
Car (as driver)	239	43
Car (as passenger)	145	26
Train	131	24
Taxi	70	13
Van/ lorry	10	2
Motorbike	10	2
Mobility Scooter	3	0.5
Total	1644	

Q2 And what form of transport do you use the most in the Lewes Road area?

Mode of transport	No.	% of total respondents
Bus	209	38
Cycle	197	35
Walk	166	30
Car (as driver)	139	25
Car (as passenger)	37	7
Train	28	5
Taxi	8	1.5
Motorbike	6	1
Van/ lorry	2	0.5
Mobility Scooter	3	0.5
Total	795	

Q3 Thinking about your usual choice of transport in the area, how would you rate your experience?

Experience	No.	%
Poor	178	32
Average	175	31.5
Good	118	21.2
Very poor	67	12.1
Very good	15	2.7
No reply	3	0.5
Total	556	100

Q4 We would like to know if there are problems with transport in the Lewes Road area. Thinking about your main form of transport, are any of the following issues a problem?

Problems	No.	% of total respondents
Traffic congestion	377	67.8
Inconsiderately parked vehicles	301	54.1
Unsafe to cycle	288	51.8
Too much pollution	242	43.5
Condition of roads	205	36.9
Cost of buses	162	29.1
Speed of traffic	146	26.3
Street clutter	119	21.4
Slow bus journey times	111	20.0
Lack of safe crossing points	107	19.2
Lack of cycle parking	95	17.1
Quality of pavements	86	15.5
Not enough bus real time information signs	82	14.7
Not enough buses	56	10.1
Buses don't go where I need them to	43	7.7
Unclear/ too much signage	32	5.8
Not enough bus shelters	28	5.0
Not enough signage	26	4.7
Total	2506	

Respondents were asked if they have any other comments. These have been grouped under themes and the top 20 comments shown in the table below. The full list of comments is included at Appendix I.

Comment	Number of times mentioned
Cars parked in cycle lanes / double parking	34
Cycle lanes are badly designed / too narrow	29
Vogue Gyratory is difficult for all users	25
Too many pedestrian crossings in close proximity	21
Too much traffic / congestion	10
Poor cycle lane surface / road surface	10
Cyclists ignore red lights / highway code	10
Debris on cycle lane / road / pavement	9
Inconsiderate driving	9

Bus journeys are too slow	8
Cyclists on pavement / not in cycle lane	8
Buses / lorries come too close to cyclists	8
Shared path between Coldean Lane and Falmer is inadequate	7
Air pollution is high	7
Cycling is dangerous / feel vulnerable cycling	7
Bus service is poor	7
Cycle lane south of Vogue Gyratory is inconsistent	6
Insufficient lighting for pedestrians / cyclists	6
Pavements unpleasant / too narrow	6
Too much street clutter	6

Q5 If transport could be improved in the Lewes road area, can you tell us which three you would consider to be most important? *(The answers should only be taken as indicative because some people ticked less than 3 and some people more than 3).*

Transport Improvements	No.	%
Cycling Improvements	318	57.2
Improved traffic flow	246	44.2
Improved road safety	176	31.7
Faster bus journey times	169	30.4
Pedestrian improvements	165	29.7
Better parking controls	154	27.7
Reduced speed limits	132	23.7
Improved/ more pedestrian crossings	79	14.2
Improved travel information	55	9.9
Total	1494	

Respondents were asked if they have any other comments. These have been grouped under themes and the top 20 comments shown in the table below. The full list of comments is included at Appendix 2.

Comment	Number of times mentioned
Improve the Vogue Gyratory	24
Increase enforcement of cycle lanes / loading / parking	18
Wider Cycle Lanes	12
Remove some of the traffic lights south of the gyratory	11
Introduce bus lanes	10
Introduce segregated cycle route	9
Reduce traffic / encourage sustainable transport	9
Introduce off-road cycle route	8
Improve cycle lane / road surface	7
Improve conditions for cycling	7
Reduce speed limits	7
Introduce more Real Time Information	5
Ensure cycle lane is continuous	4
Upgrade shared path north of Coldean Lane	4
Enforce speed limits	4
Improve junctions	3
Improve traffic flow	3
Cheaper bus fares	3
More cycle parking	3
Reduce air pollution	2

Which Exhibition did you attend?

Roadshow	No.	%
Hollingdean	21	3.8
Coldean	20	3.6
Hanover	34	6.1
Bevendean	11	2.0
Moulsecroomb	29	5.2
University of Brighton	48	8.6
Triangle Community group	1	0.2
Bates Estate Meeting	7	1.3
University of Sussex	19	3.4
Saunders Park Estate	9	1.6
None or not stated	357	64
Total	556	100

Are you?

	No.	%
A resident	346	62.2
A business owner/ or manager in the area	4	0.7
Work in the area	193	34.7
Travel through the area to get somewhere else	184	33.1
A visitor to the area	7	1.3
Other includes		
Student	10	1.8
I shop in the area	2	0.3

Demographic Information

	No.	%
Male	262	47
Female	279	50
No reply/ prefer not to say/ other	15	3
Total	556	100

Age	No.	%
U18	2	0.4
18-24	109	19.6
25-34	97	17.4
35-44	127	22.8
45-54	92	16.5
55-64	70	12.6
65-74	20	3.6
75+	13	2.3
No reply/ prefer not to say	26	4.7
Total	556	100

Disability	No.	%
Yes	53	9.5
No	461	82.9
No reply / I do not wish to disclose this	42	7.5
Total	556	100

Ethnicity	No.	%
White British	459	82.6
White Irish	8	1.4
White gypsy or Irish traveller	15	2.7
Chinese	1	0.2
Black or Black British Africa	2	0.4
Black or Black British Caribbean	2	0.4
White & Asian	2	0.4
White & Black Caribbean	4	0.7
Turkish	1	0.2
Arab	2	0.4
Japanese	1	0.2
Other ethnic background	13	2.3
No reply/ prefer not to say	46	8.3
Total	556	100

Q4 Other comments - Problems

Comment	Number of times mentioned
Cars parked in cycle lanes / double parking	34
Cycle lanes are badly designed / too narrow	29
Vogue Gyratory is difficult for all users	25
Too many pedestrian crossings in close proximity	21
Too much traffic / congestion	10
Poor cycle lane surface / road surface	10
Cyclists ignore red lights / highway code	10
Debris on cycle lane / road / pavement	9
Inconsiderate driving	9
Bus journeys are too slow	8
Cyclists on pavement / not in cycle lane	8
Buses / lorries come too close to cyclists	8
Shared path between Coldean Lane and Falmer is inadequate	7
Air pollution is high	7
Cycling is dangerous / feel vulnerable cycling	7
Bus service is poor	7
Cycle lane south of Vogue Gyratory is inconsistent	6
Insufficient lighting for pedestrians / cyclists	6
Pavements unpleasant / too narrow	6
Too much street clutter	6
Difficult to mix buses and cyclists	6
Vehicles frequently enter cycle lanes	6
Buses are overcrowded	6
Buses don't go where I need them to	6
Buses don't come on time	5
Buses cut cyclists up	5
Pedestrians don't cross on crossing points	4
No enforcement of bus / cycle lane	4
Buses are too expensive	4
Vehicles travel too fast	4
Buses protrude beyond bus stops	4
Unclear signage	3
Don't feel safe walking	3
Not enough car parking	3
Buses are dirty and unpleasant	3
More Real Time Information needed	3
Trains are too expensive	2
Not enough bus shelters	2
Poor cyclist visibility	2
Condition of road surface exiting Vogue Gyratory is poor	2
Need a wide bus & cycle lane	2
Bus competition is unfair	2
Football buses / traffic causes problems on match days	2
Not enough pedestrian crossings	2
Not enough speed cameras	2
Not enough buses	2
Need segregated cycle lanes	2
Inconsiderate bus drivers	2
Bus / cycle conflict at bus stops	1
Bendy buses cause problems	1

Longer pedestrian crossing times are needed	
Buses layover for too long at bus garage	
Cycle lane next to parked cars is not suitable	
Buses break speed limit	
Bus journeys are uncomfortable	
Traffic calming is needed in Coldean	
Cars go through red lights	
Speeding in Barcombe Road	
Pinch points on Lewes Road	
Bus / cycle lanes should be separate	
Bus shelters cause problem at night - vandalism	
Pedestrian crossings are dangerous	
Stonymere Way is too narrow	
Cars frequently block junctions	
More route information needed at bus stops	
Bike Train is unsafe	
Pedestrian / cycle conflict	
Difficult to cross road	
Lack of motorcycle parking	
Need tunnel through railway embankment for cycle lane	
Need off-road cycle lanes	
Sky walk needed to Sainsburys	
Poor access to Moulsecoomb station	
Not enough dropped kerbs	
Shortage of crossings on Upper Lewes Road	
Bikes should be allowed on buses	
Traffic lights need to be improved	
Too many bus stops	
Total No. of Comments	349

Q5 Other comments - Improvements

Comment	Number of times mentioned
Improve the Vogue Gyratory	24
Increase enforcement of cycle lanes / loading / parking	18
Wider Cycle Lanes	12
Remove some of the traffic lights south of the gyratory	11
Introduce bus lanes	10
Introduce segregated cycle route	9
Reduce traffic / encourage sustainable transport	9
Introduce off-road cycle route	8
Improve cycle lane / road surface	7
Improve conditions for cycling	7
Reduce speed limits	7
Introduce more Real Time Information	5
Ensure cycle lane is continuous	4
Upgrade shared path north of Coldean Lane	4
Enforce speed limits	4
Improve junctions	3
Improve traffic flow	3
Cheaper bus fares	3
More cycle parking	3
Reduce air pollution	2
Improve loading provision	2
Introduce buses between Hollingdean and Lewes Road	2
Improve public transport journey times	2
Introduce cycle priority lights	2
Improve street lighting	2
More car parking	2
Build bridge over Lewes Rd by Cockroft building	2
Make it illegal to park on footways / verges	2
Introduce a Park & Ride scheme	2
Traffic Calming on Hillside	2
Improve driver / bus driver behaviour	2
Need more buses in peak times	1
Traffic claming in Beatty Ave	1
Need more cycle training	1
Shops in Barcombe Road need double yellow lines	1
Plant more trees	1
Introduce pollution monitors with displays	1
Remove street clutter	1
Build more safety features	1
Change Sussex Uni cycle access	1
Cyclists should have number plate / tax disc / MOT	1
Enforce highway code for cyclists	1
Make Upper Lewes Rd one way	1
Direct bus to Brighton Station needed from Lewes Rd	1
No cycle lanes	1
Better traffic management on match days	1
Eastbound bus stop needed by Southern Water offices	1
Don't reduce speed limits	1
Re-open top end of Natal Road	1
More limited stop buses	1

Less buses	
Fewer bus stops	
Introduce pedestrian wayfinding signs	
Need pedestrian crossing at Village Way jctn	
Remove cycle lane bollards / islands on The Avenue	
More travel planning	
Improve access to rail stations	
Remove no entry sign at Southall Avenue	
Cycle lane within bus lane is a bad idea	
Remove bus lay-bys	
Improve pedestrian access to Pavilion retail park	
Cycle lanes on the Avenue at junction with Lewes Road	
Introduce a tram system	
Move Sainsburys entrance / exit	
Yellow boxes to stop cars blocking junctions	
More cycle parking	
Buses should take disability scooters	
Buses shouldn't have to cross cycle path to reach stops	
Introduce pedestrian facilities at the Upper Lewes Rd / Ditchling Rd junction	
Prevent bus company increasing fares	
Total no. of comments	197