

## **A23 Cycle Route Scheme Consultation Results**

### **1. Background**

The proposal for improvements along the A23 was adopted as part of a package of capital schemes in the Local Transport Plan 2006/7 – 2010/11. The scheme will contribute towards achievement of the LTP objective to increase cycling trips by 5% per year and to reduce congestion by 5% in 2010. Brighton & Hove City Council was awarded Cycling Demonstration Town (CDT) status by Cycling England in 2005 & Cycling Town Status in 2008.

### **2. Methodology**

In order to ascertain the level of public awareness and support for a Cycle and Pedestrian scheme running along the A23 from The Deneway to the A23/A27 junction roundabout in Patcham, we have used a number of appropriate approaches to engage with the public.

#### **2.1 Mailing to local area**

A mail drop to a wider area than just the residential addresses along this section of the A23, using addresses drawn from BHCC land & property gazetteer. This is a property based database (as opposed to the electoral register – which residents can ‘remove’ their details from) so ensuring as wider coverage as possible. The mail out comprised of a leaflet inviting people to visit a local venue (with clear information of the times and duration) to see detailed plans and some information of the cycle route on The A23 London Road Cycle and Pedestrian Scheme. The leaflet also included information about the scheme and a questionnaire with a freepost return envelope.

Leaflets and questionnaires were sent to 1588 addresses surrounding the proposed route of the A23 Cycle and Pedestrian Route Scheme from The Deneway to the A23 roundabout at Patcham. These leaflets provided information about the proposed plans. The consultation period ran from the beginning of October with a closing date of 6 November 2009.

#### **1.2 Council website**

Whilst the consultation was open, a link to information about the proposals, copies of plans and an on-line version of the questionnaire was available through the Home Page, the Cycling page and also through the Corporate Consultation pages of the council's website.

#### **1.3 Exhibition**

Exhibitions were held either at Patcham Community Centre (20-24 October 2009) or Hove Town Hall (12-17 October 2009). Both exhibitions included times when staff would be available to answer questions and included at least one evening and a weekend period at both sites.

## 2 Results

450 survey forms were received (28% of the number mailed out), 375 (83.5%) of these were from the mail out of the leaflet and questionnaire, 61 (13.5%) of these were returned from the exhibitions and 14 (3%) of these were received via the online survey.

The questionnaire had 7 main questions with tick box answers about cycling or walking relating to the A23 scheme. Each question left a space for people to tell us why they had chosen their answer and a further question (8) for comments at the end. The written responses overlapped and so comments have been grouped into themes.

### Q1 Do you currently use the A23 London Road regularly?

Responses were not mutually exclusive.

Mode	Responses	
	No.	%
Pedestrian	308	36
Cyclist	147	17
Car user	365	43
Other: bus	29	3.5
Other motorcyclist	4	0.5
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>853</b>	<b>100</b>

### Q2 How safe do you feel the A23 currently is for cyclists?

Responses were as follows. 17 people (4%) did not answer this question:

	Responses	
	No.	%
Very Safe	21	5
Safe	113	26
Neither safe or unsafe	63	14.5
Fairly unsafe	165	38
Very unsafe	71	16.5
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>100</b>

Overall, 31% feel that this section of the A23 is safe or very safe for cyclists whilst 54.5% feel that it is fairly or very unsafe. Different types of transport users feel differently about how safe this section of the A23 is for cyclists.

How safe is this section of the A23 for cyclists?	Responses by Mode					
	Pedestrians' views		Cyclists' views		Car Users' views	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Very Safe	15	5	7	5	20	6
Safe	78	26.5	31	21	102	29
Neither safe or unsafe	42	14	15	10	49	14
Fairly unsafe	108	36.5	61	42	133	37
Very unsafe	52	18	32	22	52	14
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>295</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q3 Do you agree that measures are required to improve safety for cyclists along the A23 London Road?**

Responses were as follows 17 (4%) respondents did not answer this question:

Improve safety for cyclists?	Responses	
	No.	%
Strongly Agree	258	59.5
Agree	132	30.5
Neither Agree or Disagree	43	10
Disagree	0	0
Strongly Disagree	0	0
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>100</b>

Overall 90% agree or strongly agree and no respondents disagree or strongly disagree.

All modal groups support the notion of improving safety for cyclists as shown in the table below, not surprisingly, cyclists show more keen support for safety measures for cycling:

Improve safety for cyclists?	Responses by Mode					
	Pedestrians		Cyclists		Car Users	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Strongly Agree	175	59	119	44.5	208	58
Agree	89	30	120	45	120	34
Neither Agree or Disagree	32	11	28	10.5	28	8
Disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0
Strongly Disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>267</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q4 Do you support the introduction of new cycle lanes as set out in the proposed scheme?**

10 people (2%) did not answer this question).

Support introduction of cycle lanes?	Responses	
	No.	%
Strongly Agree	140	32
Agree	125	28.5
Neither Agree or Disagree	39	9
Disagree	50	11
Strongly Disagree	86	19.5
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>100</b>

60.5% respondents either strongly agree or agree that they support the introduction of new cycle lanes as set out in the proposed scheme whilst 30.5% disagree or strongly disagree. Of these it can be seen in the table below that cyclists, not surprisingly, show the most support at 79%, followed by 59% pedestrians and 57% car users.

Support introduction of cycle lanes?	Responses by Mode					
	Pedestrians' views		Cyclists' views		Car Users views'	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Strongly Agree	102	34	72	49.5	112	31
Agree	77	26	41	28	100	28
Neither Agree or Disagree	28	9.5	6	4	30	8
Disagree	31	10.5	8	5.5	40	11
Strongly Disagree	60	20	19	13	79	22
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>361</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q5 How safe do you feel the A23 London Road currently is for pedestrians?**

11 (2.5%) people did not answer this question. 40.5% respondents think that the A23 is safe or very safe for pedestrians whilst 47% feel it is fairly or very unsafe.

How safe is A23 for pedestrians?	Responses	
	No.	%
Very Safe	37	8.5
Safe	139	32
Neither safe or unsafe	55	12.5
Fairly unsafe	124	28
Very unsafe	84	19
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>439</b>	<b>100</b>

How safe is A23 for pedestrians?	Responses by Mode					
	Pedestrians' views		Cyclists' views		Car Users' views	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Very Safe	25	8	7	5	32	9
Safe	86	29	61	43	119	33
Neither safe or unsafe	33	11	25	17	44	12
Fairly unsafe	87	29	36	25	100	28
Very unsafe	68	23	14	10	63	18
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>358</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q6 Do you feel measures are required to improve safety for pedestrians along the A23 London Road?**

16 (3.5%) did not answer this question.

Improve safety for pedestrians	Responses	
	No.	%
Yes	290	67
No	144	33
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>100</b>

Looking at how different mode users answered this question we can see, not surprisingly, that pedestrians are more likely to feel that safety needs improving (respondents could tick more than one mode of transport).

Improve safety for pedestrians	Responses by Mode					
	Pedestrians' views		Cyclists' views		Car Users' views	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Yes	216	73	90	64	222	63
No	81	27	51	36	130	37
<b>Total responses</b>	<b>297</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>352</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q7 Which potential cycle/ pedestrian crossing locations do you prefer?**

Respondents were asked to choose two locations.

Crossing Locations	Responses	
	No.	%
Location A	208	32.5
Location B	144	22.5
Location C	138	21.5
Location D	151	23.5
<b>Total Responses</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>100</b>

**Q8 Do you think any other improvements or changes are needed to this section of the A23 London Road?**

Comments related to the scheme are summarised below:

Comment	Responses	
	No.	%
Speed of traffic/ reduce speed limit	121	15
There needs to be more crossings	109	14
It's safe enough already	102	13
Volume of traffic/ busy road	100	13
It will be safer	59	7
There are not enough cyclists/ pedestrians in the area to justify this	59	7
Drivers have no respect for cyclists/ cycle lanes/ park on cycle lanes/ are reckless	37	4.5
It is a waste of money	37	4.5
Deneway junction – Carden Avenue roundabout needs improvements/ crossings/ it's dangerous	32	4
It's dangerous because there are no cycle lanes	27	3.5
There needs to be a continuous cycle lane	27	3.5
It will encourage cycling/ walking/ reduce car traffic	26	3
It will create more congestion	25	3
Don't like cyclists, or cycle lanes, on pavements	20	2.5
Reckless cycling	16	2
By-pass roundabout is dangerous	2	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>799</b>	<b>100</b>

## Demographic Profile of Respondents

### Gender

55 people (12%) did not answer this question.

Gender	No.	%
Male	209	53
Female	186	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>100</b>

### Age

42 people (10%) did not answer this question.

Age	No.	%
U18	2	0
18-24	4	0
25-34	34	8
35-44	89	22
45-54	76	19
55-64	80	20
65-74	68	17
75+	55	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>100</b>

### Religion

90 people (20%) did not answer this question.

Religion	No.	%
None	124	34
Christian	223	62
Jewish	6	2
Hindu	2	0.5
Muslim	0	0
Sikh	3	1
Buddhist	0	0
Other	2	0.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>100</b>

### Disability

62 people (14%) did not answer this question.

Disability	No.	%
Yes	59	15
No	329	85
<b>Total</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>100</b>

### Ethnicity

64 people (14%) did not answer this question.

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
White British	361	93.5
White Irish	3	0.7
Other White Background	9	0.2
Caribbean	4	0.1
African	0	0
Other black background	1	0.2
Indian	2	0.5
Pakistani	0	0
Bangladeshi	0	0
Other Asian background	1	0.2
White & Black Caribbean	0	0
White & Black African	0	0
White & Asian	1	0.2
Other mixed background	2	0.5
Chinese	2	0.5
Other ethnic background	0	0
Don't know	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>100<sup>1</sup></b>

### **Sexuality**

136 people (30%) did not answer this question.

<b>Sexuality</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>%</b>
Heterosexual	298	95
Bisexual	4	1
Gay	9	3
Lesbian	3	1
Other	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>100</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Does not add up to 100 due to rounding