

## Neighborhood plan consultation response



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To Neighbourhood, Planning: WCC

Blue category

Follow up. Start by 12 June 2023. Due by 12 June 2023.



Fri 09/06/2023 18:13

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Hi there,

I'm offering my thoughts as a resident of the Hyde Park Ward, living at [redacted]

Travel to and cycle through Belgravia, either on social visits or to reach Victoria station. It's a lovely area.

I'd like to applaud the plan's intent to reduce rat running traffic. This should be a priority across the city. Through traffic should be prioritized on roads designed for and intended for through traffic. Residential roads should not be used as workarounds. As you note, they make roads unsafe and/or uncomfortable for cyclists, and more importantly, for people who might otherwise want to be cyclists.

I'm speaking for my wife in particular. She will not cycle in London because she feels too unsafe throughout Westminster. She otherwise loves cycling. We could easily both cycle to Victoria station on our way to Gatwick. It would be the fastest, cheapest, most pleasant option for us. But my wife *\*feels\** unsafe.

I'd encourage the neighborhood to double down on its intent to restrict through traffic, and traffic in general (!), and clearly establish its streets as safe for cyclists. It will be appreciated by cyclists, pedestrians, families, women, children, the elderly, the disabled, and more.

The neighborhood should encourage its own neighbors to adopt similar schemes, and should not be afraid to implement changes over longer test periods in order to ascertain whether adverse effects are indeed noticed, and what kinds. While well-intentioned, seeking to avoid any tradeoffs at all cost is likely to inhibit the forum's own goals.

Best,

Olivier Bouan  
[redacted]