

**QUESTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT PDS COMMITTEE FROM  
SPENCER HARRADINE, BROMLEY CYCLISTS FOR ORAL REPLY**

Does the committee agree that a strong cycling strategy for the borough is an essential cornerstone on which to build a response to the pollution, congestion and obesity problems faced by communities in this borough?

Reply

Yes. The Cycling Strategy aims to increase the number of residents cycling in the borough through investing in infrastructure, education and training. The strategy aligns to the Council's overarching Building a Better Bromley vision including a quality environment and a healthy Bromley.

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**QUESTION TO THE ENVIRONMENT PDS COMMITTEE FROM  
RICHARD GIBBONS FOR ORAL REPLY**

Will Committee Members be able to comment from first-hand experience on the merits or otherwise of the proposed Cycling Strategy, insofar as how many members regularly cycle to school with children, and/or cycle to shops within the borough, and/or cycle to a station, and/or commute to work by bike?

Reply

One of the Building a Better Bromley priorities is a Healthy Bromley. It is therefore important to increase the amount of exercise that Bromley residents take on regular basis. Cycling and walking are two modes of exercise that both have health benefits and have the additional benefit of reducing congestion, if they replace car journeys. Whilst I accept your experience as a regular cyclist over many years, in my view it is also a priority of the cycling strategy to encourage many more residents to take up cycling. From that perspective current non-cyclists can appreciate the perceived barriers that need to be overcome for more residents to start cycling on a regular basis and not just for leisure purposes. As a walker, I consider it is also important to ensure that the cycling strategy does not inhibit other forms of physical exercise such as walking and running and adversely impact those residents who undertake the same journeys you highlight on foot. Committee members bring many different experiences to decision making and this variety of experience brings balance. I'm sure committee members will consider your points during consideration of the strategy before it is issued for public comment. During the consultation we will be seeking to hear the views of all residents, from non-cyclists and aspiring cyclists to leisure cyclists and very experienced cyclists as we attempt to make cycling more popular.

Supplementary Question

Mr Gibbons asked whether the Portfolio Holder, Committee Chairman and Vice-Chairman would be prepared to provide a lead and accept an invitation to join an organised cycle ride around the borough.

Reply

Appreciative of the invitation, the Chairman was willing to participate in a gentle organised cycle ride subject to not exasperating an existing knee condition.

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