

August 21, 2004

Our ref: C 04 003

Your ref:

Graham Amis
Environment & Transport Department
Cambridgeshire County Council
Castle Court, Shire Hall
Castle Hill
Cambridge CB3 0AP



Cambridge Cycling Campaign

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Dear Mr Amis,

Collisions involving cyclists due to car door openings

We understand that around 5% of collisions involving cyclists are a result of car door openings. We write to request further information and any statistics you may have regarding this.

(The background to our enquiry is our continued concern about the provision of cycle lanes directly next to rows of parked vehicles, such as on Trumpington Road and on Coldham's Lane.)

The Joint Road Accident Data Report 2001 (dated March 2002) says (page 31, para 6.9)

"A study of pedal cycle accidents that occurred in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough between 1997 and 1999 found that: 3% involved pedal cyclists hitting open doors of vehicles or doors being opened into the path of cyclists; whereas a report produced for the start of the Health For Cambridgeshire initiative quotes "Eighty pedal cycle accidents (5%) involved pedal cycles hitting open doors of vehicles/ doors being opened into the path of cyclists".

Would it be possible for you to provide us with more up-to-date figures for this type of incident, if possible covering a longer period of time, and divided up by geographical location, e.g. by town/area. (We cannot find reference to this kind of accident in the 2003 report.)

In addition, are there any particular areas in Cambridge that stand out as having particularly high figures for car door/cycle incidents?

Please let us know of any information you are able to provide.

Yours sincerely, on behalf of Cambridge Cycling Campaign,

Martin Lucas-Smith
Co-ordinator