

December 2, 2004

Our ref: <C 05 002>
Your ref:

The Chief Constable
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Headquarters
Hinchinbrooke Park
Huntingdon
PE29 6NP



Cambridge Cycling Campaign

P.O. Box 204, Cambridge CB4 3FN
01223 690718 (phone & fax)
contact@camcycle.org.uk
www.camcycle.org.uk

Dear Chief Constable

Mandatory Cycle Lanes

As you probably know, Cambridge Cycling Campaign is a local voluntary organisation with over 700 members. We try to work closely with local government and others to improve conditions for cyclists in Cambridge and the surrounding area. Government statistics show more than 25% of local people cycle to work and this is by far the highest figure for the UK.

Cambridge Cycling Campaign is concerned over the number of motorists who regularly drive in Mandatory Cycle Lanes. In a recent exchange between some members over a dozen locations in Cambridge were quickly identified where drivers can be seen doing this each and every day. Conflicts are not uncommon, resulting in some cyclists feeling unsafe even in such lanes.

The Highway Code para 119 states:

*Cycle Lanes. These are shown by road markings and signs. You **MUST NOT** drive or park in a cycle marked by a solid white line during its times of operation.*

Under what circumstances, if any, is it lawful for a motorist to drive in a mandatory cycle lane? For example, do you believe it is lawful to drive in a mandatory cycle lane to get past a car waiting to turn right?

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of Cambridge Cycling Campaign,

Martin Lucas-Smith
Co-ordinator