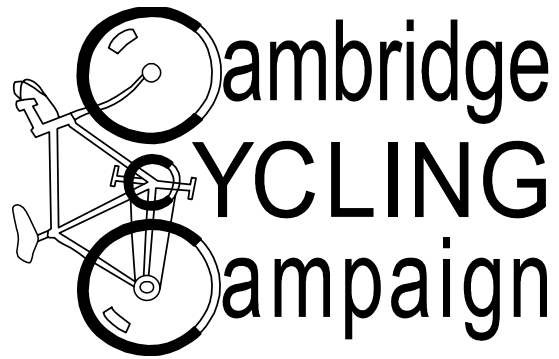


January 8, 2004

Our ref: NA04001
Your ref:

Mrs Anne Campbell MP
House of Commons
Westminster
LONDON



Cambridge Cycling Campaign

P.O. Box 204, Cambridge CB4 3FN
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Dear Mrs Campbell,

Traffic Management Bill

Cambridge Cycling Campaign is concerned that this Bill currently before Parliament will make enforcement of offences relating to cycle lanes less likely, but otherwise supports the efforts of Government to improve the compliance of road users with the law.

Already, even though 25% of trips within Cambridge are by bicycle we see little if any sign of enforcement in cycle lanes. There are numerous locations where motorists persist in either parking in, or driving down cycle lanes.

We were pleased to see that you spoke in the debate on Monday 5th Jan., but feel that the issues raised below may have been overlooked

We had hoped that this Bill would allow 'civil enforcement' of cycle lanes in a similar way to that being proposed for bus lanes, and that this would enable more effective enforcement of regulations applying to such lanes.

- Paragraph 69 (2) lists the broad areas that are subject to civil enforcement as including parking, bus lane, and moving traffic contravention's, but does not mention cycle lanes.
- Schedule 7 gives more detailed lists, but although there is reference to 'cycle tracks' (Part 1 para.4(2)(h)), we can find no reference to 'cycle lanes'.

In some cases at some times 'waiting' and 'loading/unloading' may cover some lanes, as some are also covered directly by such restrictions, but many cycle lanes have no such additional restrictions.

Motor vehicles obstructing cycle lanes make trips by bike unpleasant, less safe and slower. We had hoped that this bill would improve enforcement hence contributing to:

“better, safer and more cycling in and around Cambridge”

Please can you either:

Tell us which provisions in this Bill will enable civil enforcement of regulations relating to cycle lanes.

or

Ensure that changes are made at the committee stage which will enable civil enforcement of regulations relating to cycle lanes.

We do hope that if such a serious omission regarding cycle lanes has been made that it will be possible to rectify this and hence allow increased enforcement in this area.

Yours sincerely,
on behalf of Cambridge Cycling Campaign,

Jim Chisholm

cc Andrew Landsley MP

Steven Norris (Chair National Cycling Strategy Board)

PACTS (Parliamentary Advisory Committee for Transport Safety)