

Lewis, Ian (Councillor)

From: Lewis, Ian (Councillor)
Sent: 03 October 2020 19:48
To: Armstrong, David
Cc: Evans, Alan D.; Rennie, Lesley A. (Councillor); Hayes, Paul A. (Councillor)
Subject: RE: Proposed Cycleway

Dear Assistant Chief Executive

Thank you for your email, as requested by Lesley, Paul and I.

I am pleased to hear there was a 'frank' exchange of views. Had the Combined Authority and their counterpart in Wirral consulted at the very beginning, much of the distress, anguish and concern that has been caused to our residents and businesses could have been avoided.

I would dispute the claim that the (non) delivery of 30,000 leaflets was 'pre-consultation'. When we asked at the briefing in July about the consultation, we were assured that this leaflet would be the 'start' of the consultation. Clearly, as we now know, it was not.

I am, of course, pleased that following representations, the objections from residents, businesses, myself and my colleagues Councillors Rennie and Hayes, have been accepted and that the plan, as proposed, will NOT be proceeding. I also very much appreciate Alan Evans accepting our invitation to 'walk' the route last week to help inform these concerns.

Notwithstanding this, if Wirral Council and the Combined Authority now wish to consult with residents on alternatives, I trust this will be with all 30,000 households and businesses (as promised to me on 23 July and highlighted on this [map](#))?

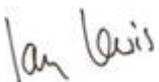
Furthermore, I do hope that this will be about the general principles and inviting suggestions, rather than somebody in an office selecting alternative specific roads that would simply create a fresh wave of objections from residents in those roads?

You may also be aware of yesterday's article on the Wirral Globe [website](#), ironically from cyclists complaining about the lack of consultation over the removal of the temporary cycle lane on Kings Parade.

The common sense solution, surely, would be to improve this existing route instead of causing chaos on roads that were never designed for cycle routes and which, as we have demonstrated, are wholly unsuitable for such works?

I would be grateful if you would continue to keep Councillors Rennie, Hayes and I informed of these issues.

Best wishes



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Local Conservative Councillor for Wallasey Ward

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From: Armstrong, David <davidarmstrong@wirral.gov.uk>
Sent: 01 October 2020 20:06
To: Lewis, Ian (Councillor) <ianlewis@wirral.gov.uk>
Cc: Evans, Alan D. <alanevans@wirral.gov.uk>
Subject: Proposed Cycleway

Dear Councillor Lewis

As requested here is a brief note to confirm that Alan Evans and myself joined a meeting today with all the key professionals involved in the proposed scheme about which you and colleagues have raised serious concerns.

The others in the meeting were the relevant Wirral officer professionals, the Combined Authority professionals and the relevant external professional leads providing specialist input to the scheme.

The meeting was a positive one with a full and frank exchange of views on the proposals as presented to date and the consultation which has taken place to date. Alan fed back on the outcomes of him walking the route with you last Friday at your invitation and I shared my views based on my own research and knowledge of the route.

As a result of the representations to date it was agreed there will be further full consultation....the consultation to date was termed pre-consultation.

In addition, again based upon feedback to date other options were presented for a number of locations, mainly at this time in the Wallasey area. These second proposals/options sought to achieve the continued provision of a route from Birkenhead to New Brighton but to us introduced three new principles:

- Firstly, a willingness to look at other road and adjacent non road routes as options for consideration for specific sections eg Grove Road
- Secondly, options which gave greater consideration to the retention of existing car parking spaces alongside the provision of safe space for cycling.
- Thirdly, gave consideration to the greater retention of existing streetscape features...the example was a roundabout.

Alan and I proposed that these principles be applied to the whole route to produce options for discussion for those sections of the proposed route where serious concerns have been raised. We also asked that the role of the promenade route be further considered and whether it could be further utilised as a partial solution to the most challenging sections of the proposed route...ie the high density housing and service/shopping/hospitality areas.

Many thanks, David Armstrong.

David Armstrong. MA
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