

Why the monitoring?

Southwark Council was trying to ban riverside cycling between Blackfriars Bridge and Cannon Street bridge. We've persuaded them to continue with shared use – but reckless cycling here by a minority is a problem for all that we need to measure, and stop. It's about education and cooperation, not bans. If jobs on bikes still spoil it, catch them.

What about the new byelaw?

Government (the Department of Communities and Local Government) has refused to confirm the byelaw – not enough local consultation. The Council only consulted people in two blocks of flats at Falcon Point by the Founders Arms. Not even Southwark own Transport Department – and their Cycling Officer for example – knew about the attempted ban.

What's shared use?

It's when pedestrians and cyclists co-exist quite happily. They can and should do.

But this path is really busy?

And getting busier. But almost nothing has been done to improve it for the last 30 years except in places such as by Southwark Bridge. Much better signs are needed to say it's shared use and to ask, for example, quicker cyclists to use other routes - and for all to walk when it's really packed.

Why are Southwark Cyclists worried about a ban here?

Because shared use works in many many places and can work here. Pedestrians and cyclists are human powered and have similar needs in common. We should be able to work and exist together. We all need to get more active and a huge amount is being done to encourage more walking and cycling. This is not the time to ban cycling. Bans should be the last resort.

Is anyone else worried?

Yes...Southwark pedestrians represented by Southwark Living Streets are against the byelaw. So are Sustrans – the national walking/cycling charity. And the London Cycling Campaign too.

Who are Southwark Cyclists?

A really busy and effective local group that organises rides, events, training and advice all year (including 25 December) and works to improve things for all sorts of cyclists. We represent the 780 paid up London Cycling Campaign in the borough, are democratically organised and have a fine website and egroup. Try our rides, meetings and events. We're open to everyone. See www.southwarkcyclists.org .uk or email info@southwarkcyclists.org or phone.

Southwark Cyclists
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