

### Lewisham Cyclists response to LBL Parks Consultation October 2018

Parks should wherever possible be open 24/7, particularly where they have cycle routes through them e.g. Mountsfield Park. Or at least during commuting hours i.e. 6am to 8pm (year-round).

Urgent consideration should be given to widening of some shared use paths in parks, e.g. Brookmill Park, East side path in Ladywell Fields (North Park), Forster Park, Beckenham Place Park. Particularly when doing re-surfacing or general maintenance on them.

More regular, and severe, cutting back of vegetation would very much help in providing more useable space on shared paths – cut vegetation back to 0.5m from edge of path, so handlebars can overlap outside the path when passing other bikes or walkers. A good example of where this would be beneficial is Brookmill Park (near the 'blue' railings).

In the long term it is essential that cycle access is maintained to and through all parks as active travel modes like cycling and walking make a major contribution to residents' health and well-being. They allow people cycling to avoid the busy and more hazardous main roads for local shopping and leisure trips. Provide a safe place for cycle learners, young and old, to perfect their riding skills before proceeding onto the roads. They are also a destination themselves for people who cycle as a purely leisure activity.

**Compiled by Tim Collingridge (Lewisham Cyclists Secretary) 28/10/18**