

Our 5 Asks – election special



<https://cycleislington.uk/5asks/>

The local elections at the beginning of May 2018 are a great opportunity to shift Islington's transport policy onto a progressive path focusing on walking, cycling and traffic reduction. It's a once-in-four-years chance and, with the help of everyone, we want to capitalise on it.

Over the past few months, we have been discussing many ideas for inclusion in our campaign and have decided on 5 key Asks which we feel could make a real difference to people walking, cycling and simply being in the borough. The benefits of cleaner air, safer streets and quieter neighbourhoods can be enjoyed by everyone.

At local elections, most people vote for their favourite political party largely ignoring the policies and practices of the local council. But we urge voters to ignore national party policies and consider local policies. Two adjacent Labour councils like Islington and Hackney can and do have very different transport policies, or at least they have had in the last four years. So, before voting, please consider what each party is saying on air pollution, traffic reduction, walking and cycling. We'll report back, as we did in 2014, about which political parties will grant our election asks should they be elected.

Get involved!

Online: sharing our Asks on social media, liking our Facebook page, following us on Twitter, commenting on our Asks on Twitter which we will retweet. Commenting on our Asks on our Facebook page is particularly valuable as it spreads the message wider.

* [ward meeting dates](https://tinyurl.com/yblwnldu): <https://tinyurl.com/yblwnldu>.

**Islington Tribune: letters@islingtontribune.com, deadline: Wednesdays @ 12 noon

**Islington Gazette: gazette.letters@archant.co.uk; deadline: Tuesdays @ 12 noon

Offline: going to your local ward meetings* with current councillors and talking to prospective councillors. Candidates are busy engaging with anyone whose vote they can win and we hope to hold an election hustling on transport and active travel issues. Also please write to the local press** about our Asks, or other active travel issues, and come on our Bike the Borough bike ride planned later in the spring. Talk to anyone in Cycle Islington, spread awareness of the 5 Asks and help make things better. Cycling in Islington will only improve with a massive effort on all our parts; recent history tells us that otherwise things will just remain the same. It's time we all got involved and worked together to make the much needed changes happen. It doesn't matter if you only have an hour a week or a month – get involved and do what you can. Our Asks are:

1. [A high quality Liveable Neighbourhood bid](#)
2. [Protected cycle tracks on main roads](#)
3. [Bikehangars](#)
4. [More 'Quick Wins' delivered](#)
5. [A Quietway 10 for the many](#)



Thanks to our Ask owners Nick, Keith, Graham, John, Rachel and Talia and especially to Savvas for our campaign imagery.

Date for your diary: CI AGM Wednesday 13 June 7.30 pm at the Town Hall

We are delighted that Isabelle Clement, director of Wheels for Wellbeing, a charity that helps everyone enjoy cycling regardless of disability, health or age, will be our guest speaker at our AGM. Look forward to seeing you there!

Lucy Saunders – how to use TfL's on-line Healthy Streets tool

Many thanks to Lucy for giving a talk on 5 February on how campaigners can use TfL's on-line Healthy Streets tools to improve streets for active travel. Lucy, a public health specialist, is taking the lead in developing these tools and in future TfL will require boroughs to use the Healthy Streets checklist when applying for funding. Lucy took the local example of the removal of the Archway gyratory as a way of showing how schemes can be scored. Here's Lucy (to the right of the screen) with some of the audience.



Update on CI meetings with Islington Council

At the CI meeting on 14 February, Nick and Graham reported on their recent meeting with some of LBI's officers on 1 February. A key point raised was a planned audit of borough roads to rate them with CLoS (Cycling Level of Service) standards. Officers believe this will help them identify problems to address. CI members at the meeting were concerned that this was potentially a very time-consuming, and not necessarily useful, exercise. Instead, they felt that LBI should focus initially on a few pilot roads to see if the end results merited the effort involved. Officers also confirmed that the promised 18 bike hangars were now installed and that LBI had allocated capex funding for a further 600 spaces, although timescales and locations were not provided. As of

October, over 600 people were on the waiting list for a bikehangar. If you'd like one, now is the time to email road.safety@islington.gov.uk to register interest.

In early January, Nick and Chris attended a larger meeting with Executive Member for Transport Claudia Webbe and Council Leader Richard Watts. Ashok and Fran from LCC were there as well, along with several LBI officers. The issues raised in Tabitha's [November e-mail](#) were widely discussed. It was pointed out that CI had not been included at the design stage on most projects over the last two years, and Councillor Webbe said this would change going forward. Time was also spent discussing the Old Street/Clerkenwell Road scheme which has been in the planning for several years.

IC monthly meeting

Come along to the CI monthly meeting. Agenda items for meetings should reach alison.dines@cycleislington.uk by the Saturday before the meeting.

* 2nd Wednesday of every month, 7.30-9.30 pm at Islington Town Hall followed by a drink at a local pub.

Forthcoming events

- * Critical mass – last Friday of each month <http://www.urban75.org/photos/critical>
- * Check out Skyrides - <http://www.goskyride.com>
- * Islington cycle club – weekly rides to suit all levels of fitness - <http://islington.cc/>
- * Dr Bike sessions monthly - 4pm to 7pm on the first Wednesday of every month, outside Islington Town Hall on Upper Street, N1 2UD.

Cycle Islington Dr Bike

*First Sunday of the month, 1100 - 1300 at Sunnyside Community Centre, Sunnyside Road, N19 3LX - contact Adrian Williams 07810 211902

Reporting potholes

*Local: T 020 7527 2000 or islington.gov.uk and click on report a street problem. Or try fixmystreet.com

*London: T 0845 305 1234 or <https://tfl.gov.uk/modes/cyclin/g/>, then click report a street fault

Contribute to Cycleislington

*If you wish to discuss any of the topics covered in this newsletter in more detail then why not subscribe to the CI email list? Just send an email to cycleislington-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

*We have another yahoo group concerned mainly with the engineering projects which we are being consulted about. If you want to join, send an email to: cycleislington-eng-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

Please send articles/images/suggestions for this newsletter to: alison.dines@cycleislington.uk – many thanks !

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of CI. Published by CI, 84c Riversdale Rd, London, N5 2JZ ©Cycleislington 2018