





## Making High Holborn and Proctor Street safer

Since 2008, eight cyclists have tragically been killed in the Holborn Area. Camden Council are committed to improving safety across the area through both planned changes and changes we have already made. In November 2022, we ran a public consultation on proposed improvements on High Holborn, Proctor Street, and the surrounding area to help make it safer for cycling by proposing segregated cycle tracks (where people cycling are separated fully from other traffic), bus lane improvements and improved traffic lights.



## Thank you for your comments



Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their views. We had 330 responses and following the consultation our Cabinet made the decision in December 2022 to go ahead with the proposed changes. You can read the decision report relating to this and our feedback to the consultation responses on our website.

We made some changes to the proposal based on comments you made in the consultation. This includes the introduction of two way cycling on Catton Street and on Fisher Street (where general traffic only goes one way), the introduction of a westbound exit onto Southampton Row for cycles only, as well as improved direction signage for eastbound cyclists.

## Broader climate, air pollution and safety challenges

We want our streets to have more safe space for everyone to walk and cycle, for children to get to and from school safely and healthily, for businesses to be able to flourish, to reduce carbon emissions from vehicles and for you to be breathing cleaner air. We want to ensure that our streets support and provide a lasting legacy of greener, safer, healthier travel.

Whether it's an essential journey like taking your children to school, getting to work or just popping out to enjoy your local park we want you to love where you live, and to love Camden.

Camden Council's Transport Strategy 2019 - 2041 has an objective "to substantially reduce all road traffic casualties in Camden and progress towards zero Killed and Seriously Injured casualties." With the historical safety record in Holborn it is vital that we continue to make changes to help to reduce the risk of injury or death. We also want to support the 17 recommendations from Camden's Citizens Assembly on the climate crisis, which included requests for more segregated cycle lanes.



This scheme helps to deliver our own Transport Strategy priorities, which were strongly supported when we consulted on them, including increasing walking and cycling, improving air quality and making our streets and transport networks safe, accessible and inclusive for all. You can read more about our strategy on our website.

## What's going to change?

Following the public consultation in November 2022 and decision to proceed with the construction, Phase 1 of the works were constructed in August 2023 which included making the cycle boxes at the junction of Theobalds Road and Drake Street larger and changing the lane on Kingsway north to right turn only into Remnant Street.

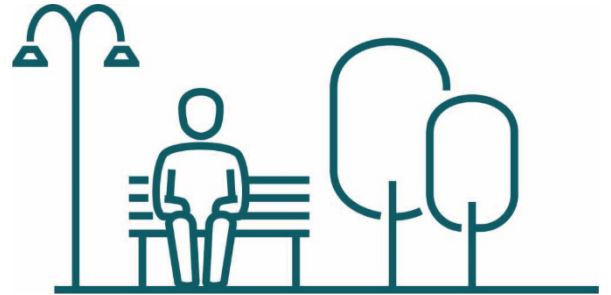
We are now going to introduce the following changes from the end of October 2023 / early November:

- Reducing Drake Street & Procter Street to one lane of traffic and one bus and taxi lane, to allow space for a segregated cycle track. Bus stops and stands will be relocated and consolidated.
- Allowing two-way cycling in and out of Red Lion Square.
- Adding a “cycle gate” (where cyclists have their own signal and move at a different time to the rest of the traffic) on Procter Street at the junction with High Holborn and a separate signalised cycle lane on High Holborn, approaching Procter Street, to provide further road safety benefits for people cycling.
- Adding ‘cycle early releases’ (where cyclists get a green light before other traffic) and bigger cycle boxes (where cyclists can wait at traffic lights ahead of other traffic) at the junction of High Holborn and Southampton Row, with ‘two-stage right turn’ facilities, and buff-coloured surfaces at pedestrian crossings.
- Extending the existing southbound bus lane (which can also be used by taxis and cycles) on Southampton Row from Catton Street through the junction to 20m south of High Holborn. The bus lane would operate 24 hours a day as far as Remnant Street.
- Relocating the existing loading bay on High Holborn to the west by 50m, with loading permitted 24 hours a day.
- To the east of Procter Street, loading will be permitted on the north side of High Holborn between the hours of 7pm-7am, but parking will not be permitted. Outside of the hours of loading (7am-7pm) a cycle lane will be in operation.
- Providing loading on Procter Street on the approach to High Holborn, permitted 7pm-7am.
- Improving the look and feel of the area by adding planting including rain gardens. This will also reduce to risk of flooding and improve biodiversity.
- Introducing two way cycling on Catton Street where traffic can only travel one way.
- On Fisher Street, introducing a westbound exit onto Southampton Row for cycles only, as well as improved directions for eastbound cyclists to improve the connection to Red Lion Square and also to provide an alternative southbound route from Southampton Row to High Holborn that avoids the Theobalds Road/Drake Street junction.



The changes will start at the end of October/early November 2023 and take around 12 months to complete. There will be periods where traffic lanes will be closed to enable the construction and for short periods, sections of High Holborn and Procter Street will be closed. This will affect bus routes in the area and how general traffic moves in the area.

We will work as efficiently as possible to reduce the impact on all road users as much as possible during the construction, and further details on alternative routes for all modes of transport will be available on our website during the periods when the closures are in place, as well as early warning signs on the roads, to notify people of the alternative routes.



## Find out more

To find out more visit our website where we will update on the project throughout the next year. You can use the QR code to access the site from your phone, or visit:

**[camden.gov.uk/Holborn](https://camden.gov.uk/Holborn)**

On our website you can also watch a video of how the changes will look once they have been constructed.

If you would like this letter in another format like large print or another language please get in touch with us using the details overleaf.



# Find out more

To find out more on how we are making travel safer in Camden visit:

[www.camden.gov.uk/making-travel-safer-in-camden](http://www.camden.gov.uk/making-travel-safer-in-camden)  
[safetravel@camden.gov.uk](mailto:safetravel@camden.gov.uk) / 020 7974 4444

To give your suggestions and feedback visit:  
[safetravelcamden.commonplace.is](http://safetravelcamden.commonplace.is)

To learn to cycle for the first time, improve your cycling skills or for a bike loan to help you get on your way visit:

[www.camden.gov.uk/cycling](http://www.camden.gov.uk/cycling)

