

# London Cycle Training Partnership Newsletter

Autumn 2008



## Keeping you updated on issues surrounding cycle training

**Event:** Stakeholder meetings

**Where:** Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, Southwark, SE1 8NJ

**Why:** To discuss issues arising from the cycle training report and keep each other updated on issues in the world of cycle training.

**How:** Each borough/organisation invited may bring 2 delegates

**When:** Late November / Early December

**All reports are available at:** [www.tfl.gov.uk/businessandpartners/publications/1421.aspx](http://www.tfl.gov.uk/businessandpartners/publications/1421.aspx)

## Welcome

I am delighted to welcome this first newsletter of London Cycling Training Partnership (LCTP). It is a truly remarkable achievement to have successfully introduced a consistent standard of cycle training in every London borough and last year to have set over 35,000 people on their way to a good understanding of how to cycle in everyday traffic conditions. There is no doubt that cycle training (and the work of the Partnership) have contributed hugely to the sustained increase in levels of cycling as well as the much more positive public attitudes towards cycling in London.

The Department for Transport (DfT) now plans significant changes to the governance and management of cycle training provision. Transport for London (TfL) and the Cycling Centre of Excellence team are safeguarding the achievements to date, particularly in terms of flexibility, quality and relevance and ensuring that we are able to target resources and support so as to be most effective.

Rose Ades, Head of Cycling Centre of Excellence

## Update from CCE

The first end of year London Cycle Training 07/08 strategy report was published in July 2008 by TfL and is available for download on the TfL website. The LCTP strategy report outlines current positions and policies on cycle training in London and sets out a proposed timeline for future cycle training outputs. The big news from 07/08 is that almost 35,000 children, adults and individuals with special needs have been trained through the London boroughs through TfL Local Implementation Plan (LIP) funding, an excellent result and an ongoing increase over the previous year. Currently all 33 boroughs offer free cycle training to children, 31 offer free or subsidised training to adults and 25 also offer specialised training to individuals with special needs.





## Mid-year LCTP report on borough cycle training

As part of ongoing work for the LCTP, Pete Z and Nicky Ward from Steer Davies Gleave (SDG) have been commissioned by TfL to visit all of the London boroughs and provide reports on how London is doing overall in its progress towards delivery of cycle training to National Standards and Bikeability. Some boroughs had already been visited as part of the National pilot on Bikeability scheme accreditation and the visits are now complete.



A summary of outputs of all the boroughs will be issued by TfL towards the end of 2008. This will be the first time a comprehensive borough by borough picture of cycle training will be available to all, and is sure to highlight the excellent work being done in London as well as any areas for ongoing progress. Watch this space for more details....

## Pan-London RSO & STA event

A pan-London event was held on Monday 3 October at the Brit Oval, the first of its kind with invitees from Road Safety, School travel Planning and Cycling. Hosted by Clare Mulholland from the School Travel Planning Programme Manager, Janet Kirrage, Road Safety and N.Veena from the Cycling Centre of Excellence, presentations were also offered on the benefits of joint partnership working by Emma Norton from LB Newham and Sam Merison from RB Kingston. The overall aim was to try and create links and promote closer working relationships between the different areas of responsibility both within TfL and the London boroughs. The management of cycle training in schools is a key cross working area and this successful event is hopefully going to be only the first of many similar efforts.



## Stakeholder meetings with boroughs and ITPs

As the next stage in the LCTP, TfL will be holding a series of stakeholder meetings between now and Christmas. These meetings are an opportunity for boroughs to raise any issues they may be having around cycle training, to exchange best practice and advice and network with one another and TfL. A separate stakeholder meeting for Independent training providers is also planned, and invitations for the meetings will be sent out soon.



## Research on cycle training

TfL and LB Lambeth have both been working this year on research projects to assess the impacts and benefits of cycle training and both are available on the TfL website.

TfL research was carried out using telephone interviews of over 6000 Londoners to assess the uptake of cycle training. Only 45 had taken up cycle training in the last year and “the typical profile of someone most likely to have attended cycle training would be a white, middle aged male, in full time employment and living in an affluent part of outer London “

In the Lambeth study, 406 telephone interviews were carried out with adults and children who had completed cycle training and the research (funded by TfL) suggests that “cycle training results in more trips being made by bicycle (primarily for leisure purposes and commuting to work or school) and these trips being made with increased confidence.” “Adults undertaking cycle training were more likely to be female than male, with half the adult sample female and aged 35-54. The relatively high proportion of middle aged, female trainees, probably reflects that women are more likely to ask for help than men and that many women were discouraged from cycling by their parents.”



## Bikeability

Cycling England are planning a ‘year of cycle training’ in 2009. This will involve a large scale national promotion of cycle training and TfL is planning on linking into this. The national focus will be on Bikeability and therefore training of children, whilst TfL will also promote adult cycle training as well. The plans are still in early stages, but TfL materials will be made available to all the London boroughs to assist them in their cycle training promotions. The revised new and improved Bikeability ‘off the shelf’ course is now available at [www.bikeability.org.uk](http://www.bikeability.org.uk) Boroughs and providers, who are not already offering a registered Bikeability course are advised to have a look and see if their course can be tweaked to meet even more closely Bikeability and the National Standards.



The Cycling England website [www.cyclingengland.co.uk](http://www.cyclingengland.co.uk) also offers more information on aspects of Bikeability and cycle training including a recent report published in June 2008 which covers Bikeability activity across the rest of the country excluding London.

## National news on cycle training



The Cycle Training Standards Board (CTSB) was formed in February 2007 by the Department for Transport (DfT) as the 'custodian body' responsible for maintaining and developing the National Cycle Training Standard and only the CTSB can amend the National Standard. The CTSB Management Group meets every quarter. A copy of the current National Standard can be found at <http://www.ctsb.org.uk> along with information about their membership and activities.

The CTSB has decided to appoint Accrediting Bodies to undertake the formal training and accreditation of National Standard instructors. Organisations wishing to become Accrediting Bodies will go through a rigorous application process and commit and adhere to an agreed Service Level Agreement. The CTSB will be inviting applications for Accrediting Bodies later in the year.

The CTSB is also taking forward work on courses to provide training for Instructor Trainers, Assistant Instructors as well as a Disability module which will offer individuals with special needs cycle training to the National Standard. This situation will be updated through the website.

If anyone working in London has any issues that they would like to raise or put to the CTSB, please contact CCE and TfL in the first instance, and they will pass them on as appropriate.

## DfT

Recently the DfT has tendered for a number of consultancy contracts to provide support to both the Department and Cycling England on various cycle training issues. This has been won by SDG and will include providing support to the CTSB, developing Bikeability and the provision of advice and support on cycle training to local authorities outside of London.

In addition DfT has let a contract to manage Cycling England's Instructor Bursary scheme which provides half the cost of instructor cycle training. Further information will shortly be available on the Cycling England's website at [www.cyclingengland.co.uk](http://www.cyclingengland.co.uk)

**If you have any comments on this newsletter or would like to contribute to future editions, please contact Dr N. Veena at [veena.natarajan@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:veena.natarajan@tfl.gov.uk)**

