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From: Dominic Leggett [mailto: ]

Sent: 25 October 2011 12:57

To: Hendy Peter (TfL); Emmerson Garrett; Plowden Ben

Subject: from the camden new journal

TfL a need for action

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• WHILE I applaud the constructive and sensible suggestions made in the letter from Camden Cycling Campaign's Jean Dollimore (Letters, October 13) I want to throw a spotlight of profound criticism on Transport for London.

I think it is well justified that a case of corporate manslaughter is now being considered over the cyclist's death at King's Cross on October 3.

I really believe we need something of that magnitude to get through to TfL's high command.

I'll list just a few on-the-road design defects on TfL-controlled roads that I've been fighting, for years, in vain to remedy for cyclist safety:

- The "death mile" on Camden Road was the subject of a very comprehensive proposed scheme in 2005, with virtually none of the recommendations implemented, despite the death of student Paula Jurek at the junction with St Pancras Way six months ago.

- The recent new two-way traffic working on Russell Square, which daily puts hundreds of cyclists at grave risk in the south east corner.

- The timing of the cyclists' traffic lights from Crogsland Road by the Roundhouse, where I participated in meeting TfL on-site with Camden highways officers two years ago.

- The cyclist crossing of Euston Road into Ossulston Street, where yet another woman cyclist was killed five years ago – again, I participated in an on-site review with TfL and Camden officers more than four years ago.

In not one of the above examples has TfL actually made any of the improvements that have been agreed to be necessary.

Camden's well-meaning officers do pursue TfL persistently but ineffectively.

They are being totally disregarded with impunity by TfL.

It's time to press the nuclear button and try to overturn the rot at the top of TfL.

They are dominated by bus considerations and seemingly indifferent to cyclist and pedestrian safety.

Hopefully, as the mayoral election approaches, Londoners will hold Boris Johnson's feet to the fire and seek commitment to sort out the malaise at the top of TfL from all the four mayoral candidates.

CLLR PAUL BRAITHWAITE  
Camden's Cycling Champion