Hammersmith and Fulham

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15 March 2021

Samuel Bailey

Our reference: 1878807

Dear Mr Bailey,

Thank you for your request for information which was received on 15 February 2021.

Our response

This request is being handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

What legal grounds you have found for applying a measure which in effect enacts a 'if you speed on a bike we will injure and maim you'. I am unaware of any legal grounds that permits a council to implement a measure which intentionally causes serious injury to a person.

The traffic calming measures were installed using a highways specification with the appropriate markings to make them compliant with highways use. These were installed to help prevent injury to cyclists. There has been no intention to injure or maim anyone.

Whether the bumps were in fact implemented as it was cheaper than resurfacing the path to smoothly cover the protruding roots.

The main path was generally in good condition and there was no need to resurface the whole path as this would have been an inappropriate use of council funds.

What risk assessment you carried out on the cycle path and the speed bumps, in particular with reference to:

There is a 'shared use' path no dedicated cycle path exists. Notices were installed at the entrances and speed restriction sign also installed to reduced speeds of cyclists. 'Shared Use' signs were also installed.

the spiked fence which is immediately next to the speed bumps and increases the chance of very severe injury when a cyclist is taken off by them.

Reducing the speed of the cyclist minimised risk of injury from nearby railings.

the lack of visibility of the speed bumps when there are leaves on the ground or the light is low. The speed bumps are very steep. Even at low speed an unseen bump can dismount a cyclist.

Appropriate and highway compliant markings were used on the speed humps. The leaves are removed, and the park is regularly maintained to address this.

how the speed bumps disproportionately increase the chance of injury to younger and less experienced cyclists.

We are not aware of any evidence of any further accidents to cyclists since the installation the speed humps. Slowing cyclists down minimises the risk of injury to both the cyclists and pedestrian.

locating the only cycle path through the park along the busiest piece of shared path , rather than permitting cyclists to divert away from the busiest pedestrian thoroughfare.

There is no dedicated cycle path through the park. Cyclists should consider pedestrians on a 'shared use path'

What follow up you have done on analysing the number of cyclists who have been injured by your measures.

We are not aware of any further accidents since the introduction of the cycle path. We would follow up as and when notified.

If you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request for information, please contact the h&f InTouch team within 40 working days of receiving this response. They will consider the matters raised and decide whether they are referred to the Council's Information Manager for an internal review.

You can write to the h&f InTouch team at Room 229, Hammersmith Town Hall, King Street, London W6 9JU, or email: handfintouch@lbhf.gov.uk. If you are registered for self-service, via the Council's My Account portal, you can also do this online: Click here to complete the form

You also have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at: The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF. Tel: 0303 123 1113. Website: www.ico.org.uk/concerns/. There is no charge for making an appeal. The ICO may ask you to contact Hammersmith and Fulham, so we can complete an internal review, before the ICO investigates the matter.

Yours faithfully

Gary Clothier

Investigations and Information Officer