



LAMBETH CYCLISTS

Lambeth Cyclists briefing paper

April 2022

[Lambeth Cyclists](#) is the Lambeth borough group of the London Cycling Campaign. The group is volunteer-led, by people who live and ride in Lambeth.

Have LTNs affected election results?

LTNs and 'active travel' schemes have been in the news a lot in the two years since the start of the pandemic as tactical schemes were rolled out across the UK. Opposition has been loud and heated, but representative research, and electoral results, have repeatedly shown that the reality is that there is majority support for such schemes¹².

Anti-LTN campaigns claimed they would show opposition to LTNs in the 2021 mayoral elections. Conservative candidate Shaun Bailey said that "As Mayor, I'll scrap unwanted LTN schemes." (despite having no power to force local authorities to do this). Independent candidates Brian Rose and Farah London did the same.

Farah flyposterred in Lambeth and attended and spoke at a OneLambeth's protest in Windrush Square. OneLambeth and other anti-LTN campaigners told their followers to vote for her. Yet she received only 934 first preference votes across Lambeth and Southwark. Even if you exclude the four main parties that was just 4% of the remaining votes. By comparison, Count Binface received 2240 first preference votes.

Eve-of-voting poll by YouGov gave Mr Khan a 12-point lead, so this was a safe election in which protest votes could have been placed - but it didn't seem to happen to any significant extent.

A number of ward by-elections also took place in May 2021 and the picture seems very clear there as well - independent candidates who stood on anti-LTN manifestos consistently come last and saw the incumbent party increase their vote.

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<https://www.smarttransport.org.uk/news/latest-news/research-reveals-keys-to-public-support-for-low-traffic-neighbourhoods>

² <https://redfieldandwiltonstrategies.com/steady-support-for-for-low-traffic-neighbourhoods-in-london/>

Waltham Forest

The Waltham Forest mini-holland project is London's longest established programme of LTN implementations. In a preview of what has been seen in the last two years across London, opposition to schemes which impacted on driving was loud and vociferous. But the noise created did not reflect public opinion and this was demonstrated over two council elections as the borough has continued to push forwards with active travel schemes.

Clyde Loakes, speaking at Healthy Streets conference after the 2018 local elections:

*"I have been a councillor for a long time. I spent years talking about encouraging a shift to bikes and walking without actually doing the things that make a difference. If I am honest I was tinkering with parking schemes and pandering to car owners. I was not delivering for our community. Then I got a chance to do something extraordinary. We won our Better Waltham Forest mini-Holland bid with low traffic neighbourhoods and protected bike lanes. We had signed up to deliver a huge public health implementation at pace. **Every ... councillor that had backed the scheme showed a significant increase in votes.** It was amazing. The impact of what we have done is enormous and it's impacted public health measurably. DfT data shows that not only did the borough have the largest increase in walking last year, the increase is so large that life expectancy has been extended for residents"*

Ealing 2021

Julian Bell, former leader of Ealing Council wrote following the 2021 mayoral elections - <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/bike-blog/2021/jun/02/the-evidence-is-in-low-traffic-neighbourhoods-are-popular>

At the London mayoral election last month, the cycle schemes were by far the biggest issue in the five main wards of Ealing they covered – Acton Central, Ealing Common, Elthorne, Northfield and Walpole. The Conservatives and Liberal Democrats blitzed the area, telling people that a vote for them would stop the LTNs. The Tory candidate, Shaun Bailey, paid a special visit to campaign against them.

In Ealing as a whole, the Tory vote did go up compared with the previous election - by 0.64 percentage points. But in the five Ealing LTN wards, the Tories went down. The Lib Dems fell too.

Hackney 2021 (Ward By-elections)³

Two prominent anti-LTN & "Horrendous Hackney Road Closures" organisers stood to become Councillors in by-elections. Standing in Hoxton East & Shoreditch Niall Crowley received just 222 votes - 7.8% of the total. In comparison; the Greens received 16% and the Labour winner 53%. Independent anti-LTN candidate Clair Battaglini stood in the Kings Park

³ <https://twitter.com/enjoyLDNfields/status/1479830153794666500>
<https://twitter.com/enjoyLDNfields/status/1390755215188631557?s=20>
<https://www.hackneygazette.co.uk/news/local-council/kings-park-by-election-2021-7925958>

ward and received a mere 151 votes - 3.8%. The Labour candidate elected received 63% of the votes cast.

Islington 2021 Ward by-elections⁴

Jody Graber, spokesperson for the Anti-LTN campaign "We Are Islington", ran on an anti-LTN ticket in St Peter's ward. He came last, with 318 votes while the winning labour candidate received more votes than any did in 2018. In Bunhill ward it was a similar picture with residents' association chair Martyn Perks coming last with 181 votes (again, the winner took more votes than the candidate they replaced had in 2018).

Lambeth 2021

Lambeth currently has a single Conservative councillor, 4 Green Party councillors and the remainder Labour. The Green Party has supported active travel measures whilst the Conservative councillor has consistently campaigned against cycling schemes, LTNs and school streets.

The clear trend from the mayoral and London Assembly elections in 2021 is the increase in the Green Party vote, with the party showing an increased share in every ward. Overall they were up by 2.7% in the Mayoral vote and 5.8% on the LA member vote. In every ward with an LTN (implemented or announced) and in all but 5 of the 21 Lambeth wards the Green Party came second.

All of the wards where an LTN has been implemented saw an increase in combined Labour+Green share, and a below borough average fall in Labour vote except for Tulse Hill.

While Tulse Hill may have seen a small LTN impact with above average fall in the Labour vote and below average increase in Green vote, Labour still received 56% of votes and the Green Party 21.1% (with the Conservatives on 10.5% and Libdems 6.3%). However, it's notable that no similar effect was seen in Streatham Hill or Ferndale, which arguably heard the loudest protests and saw the most criminal damage to filters and cameras.

In wards without LTNs only Coldharbour and Streatham South saw a fall in the combined Green+Labour vote but they were from a very high Labour share in 2016 - Labour still received 59.5% and 51.2% share in those wards (and neither has an LTN).

Southwark 2021

Analysis for Southwark is made more difficult by a change in ward boundaries/names between 2016 and 2021, and the historically strong support for LibDem candidates in the north of the borough at council elections which is not mirrored in the mayoral/London Assembly (Share of vote 2016=13%, 2018=22.7%, 2021=7.8%). Because of this it's hard to determine any useful comparatives.

However, looking at the 2021 assembly member votes

⁴ <https://twitter.com/enjoyLDNfields/status/1479830153794666500>

- In 15 wards the Green party took second place to Labour
- In the 8 wards where the Conservative Party came second the Green vote share was much closer to the Conservatives than the Conservative share was to Labour.

Lambeth - Assembly Member

2021	CON	LIBDEM	GRN	LAB	LAB+GREEN	FAR RIGHT	SOCIALIST
Lambeth Postal Votes	21.0%	12.7%	18.7%	43.7%	62.4%	2.0%	1.4%
Bishops	17.5%	12.7%	17.4%	45.3%	62.7%	3.0%	2.0%
Brixton Hill	11.7%	6.7%	21.8%	54.7%	76.5%	1.2%	1.6%
Clapham Common	24.9%	13.7%	16.9%	40.8%	57.7%	1.4%	0.7%
Clapham Town	22.1%	11.0%	19.3%	43.3%	62.6%	1.6%	1.0%
Coldharbour	9.1%	5.1%	19.3%	59.5%	78.8%	1.7%	2.4%
Ferndale	13.2%	8.6%	20.0%	52.8%	72.9%	1.6%	1.3%
Gipsy Hill	12.4%	5.2%	30.3%	46.8%	77.1%	1.5%	1.6%
Herne Hill	9.8%	5.7%	29.9%	50.4%	80.3%	1.3%	1.6%
Knights Hill	14.0%	6.0%	21.2%	53.8%	74.9%	1.7%	1.4%
Larkhall	15.0%	9.4%	18.4%	51.7%	70.1%	1.8%	1.9%
Oval	15.1%	11.7%	18.6%	49.0%	67.6%	1.7%	1.4%
Princes	17.2%	10.1%	18.7%	47.9%	66.6%	2.3%	1.8%
St Leonards	15.8%	7.4%	27.7%	43.8%	71.5%	1.6%	1.9%
Stockwell	15.2%	9.8%	16.8%	52.6%	69.5%	2.0%	1.3%
Streatham Hill	15.0%	10.0%	22.2%	47.7%	70.0%	1.5%	1.9%
Streatham South	19.8%	7.4%	15.3%	51.2%	66.6%	2.2%	1.3%
Streatham Wells	14.8%	12.0%	20.2%	48.1%	68.3%	1.9%	1.5%
Thornton	19.2%	11.5%	17.1%	48.0%	65.0%	1.7%	0.7%
Thurlow Park	17.0%	7.7%	22.6%	48.2%	70.8%	1.6%	1.2%
Tulse Hill	10.5%	6.3%	21.1%	56.0%	77.1%	1.6%	1.8%
Vassall	12.1%	9.3%	20.7%	52.6%	73.2%	1.6%	1.7%
TOTAL	16.3%	9.6%	20.5%	48.6%	69.1%	1.8%	1.5%
CHANGE VS 2016	CON	LIBDEM	GREEN	LAB	LAB+GREEN	FAR RIGHT	SOCIALIST
Lambeth Postal Votes	-7.3%	3.4%	7.3%	-2.3%	5.0%	-0.9%	0.6%
Bishop's	-2.1%	-3.1%	6.4%	0.5%	6.9%	-3.2%	1.0%
Brixton Hill	-1.8%	-0.5%	2.8%	-1.3%	1.5%	-0.8%	0.8%
Clapham Common	-11.5%	4.7%	5.3%	1.4%	6.7%	-0.1%	0.3%
Clapham Town	-6.8%	3.0%	6.9%	-2.7%	4.2%	-0.7%	0.6%
Coldharbour	1.0%	0.0%	3.1%	-6.9%	-3.9%	0.5%	1.4%
Ferndale	-5.2%	0.3%	4.2%	-0.1%	4.0%	-0.1%	0.5%
Gipsy Hill	-3.5%	-1.9%	12.5%	-7.0%	5.5%	-1.7%	0.8%
Herne Hill	-2.4%	-1.6%	2.7%	0.2%	2.9%	-0.2%	0.9%
Knight's Hill	-1.8%	-1.0%	8.2%	-4.7%	3.5%	-1.4%	0.6%
Larkhall	-4.6%	1.9%	4.8%	-2.8%	2.0%	-0.3%	1.1%
Oval	-2.9%	-0.2%	5.1%	-2.2%	2.9%	-1.0%	0.7%
Prince's	-1.0%	-0.9%	7.1%	-5.3%	1.8%	-1.4%	1.1%
St. Leonard's	-5.3%	-1.5%	10.4%	-3.6%	6.7%	-1.0%	1.2%
Stockwell	-2.7%	0.6%	3.0%	-1.3%	1.7%	-0.1%	0.6%
Streatham Hill	-2.4%	-2.1%	5.3%	-1.2%	4.1%	-0.6%	1.0%
Streatham South	1.4%	0.5%	5.6%	-7.3%	-1.7%	-1.6%	0.6%
Streatham Wells	-1.8%	-2.1%	5.6%	-1.2%	4.4%	-1.1%	0.8%
Thornton	-4.4%	4.1%	6.0%	-4.9%	1.2%	-0.7%	0.3%
Thurlow Park	-2.7%	-0.9%	6.0%	-1.2%	4.7%	-1.9%	0.4%
Tulse Hill	0.5%	0.6%	1.7%	-4.6%	-2.8%	-0.4%	1.0%
Vassall	-3.1%	-0.3%	5.8%	-3.5%	2.3%	-0.2%	1.0%
Lambeth Total	-3.6%	0.7%	5.8%	-2.9%	2.9%	-0.8%	0.8%

Southwark - Assembly member

2021 Mayoral Elections (assembly memb	2nd Party	Conservatives	Labour Party	Liberal Democ	Green Party	Labour+Green
Borough & Bankside	Green	15.5%	38.3%	15.5%	16.2%	54.6%
Camberwell Green	Green	10.7%	56.1%	3.8%	17.7%	73.7%
Champion Hill	Green	9.8%	50.2%	5.2%	21.9%	72.1%
Chaucer	Con	14.3%	50.9%	9.6%	14.0%	64.9%
Dulwich Hill	Green	11.2%	46.5%	5.7%	21.2%	67.7%
Dulwich Village	Con	23.9%	32.5%	8.7%	20.5%	52.9%
Dulwich Wood	Green	17.2%	45.9%	5.4%	18.7%	64.6%
Faraday	green	13.3%	53.3%	5.3%	13.7%	67.0%
Goose Green	green	11.1%	43.6%	10.2%	19.0%	62.6%
London Bridge & West Bermondsey	con	16.5%	39.3%	15.5%	16.1%	55.4%
Newington	green	13.3%	52.1%	6.7%	15.4%	67.5%
North Bermondsey	con	20.6%	36.0%	14.5%	14.9%	50.9%
North Walworth	green	14.4%	50.1%	7.8%	15.5%	65.6%
Nunhead & Queens Road	green	8.5%	56.1%	3.6%	20.6%	76.6%
Old Kent Road	con	17.7%	53.2%	5.7%	9.7%	62.9%
Peckham	green	10.8%	61.7%	2.8%	13.1%	74.8%
Peckham Rye	green	10.8%	47.6%	3.6%	26.8%	74.4%
Rotherhithe	con	20.8%	39.8%	9.7%	15.3%	55.1%
Rye Lane	green	7.3%	54.4%	4.4%	22.7%	77.0%
South Bermondsey	con	21.3%	39.7%	9.6%	13.8%	53.5%
St George's	green	14.1%	43.4%	13.6%	15.3%	58.7%
St Giles	green	8.5%	53.0%	4.4%	23.6%	76.5%
Surrey Docks	con	20.6%	32.2%	14.8%	16.8%	49.0%
		14.3%	47.1%	7.8%	17.8%	64.8%
	15:8	-1.6%	-2.2%	-4.9%	5.6%	3.3%
2016 Mayoral Election (assembly member, totals for borough)		16%	49%	13%	12%	
Change 2021 vs 2018		Con	Lab	Lib	Green	Lab+Green
Borough & Bankside		7.1%	7.5%	-37.1%	10.2%	17.6%
Camberwell Green		1.3%	-14.4%	-2.7%	4.1%	-10.4%
Champion Hill		1.7%	-13.1%	-6.5%	6.6%	-6.5%
Chaucer		3.4%	-4.3%	-13.9%	3.7%	-0.6%
Dulwich Hill		-0.1%	-15.2%	-7.2%	7.2%	-8.0%
Dulwich Village		-5.2%	-5.0%	-18.1%	13.7%	8.7%
Dulwich Wood		-4.4%	-13.7%	-4.9%	10.2%	-3.5%
Faraday		4.8%	-16.6%	-3.5%	1.0%	-15.6%
Goose Green		3.2%	-2.8%	-17.8%	9.1%	6.2%
London Bridge & West Bermondsey		12.3%	4.4%	-39.7%	10.3%	14.8%
Newington		5.1%	-14.1%	-6.9%	3.4%	-10.6%
North Bermondsey		8.6%	3.3%	-33.5%	9.4%	12.7%
North Walworth		4.0%	-10.3%	-7.0%	2.7%	-7.7%
Nunhead & Queen's Road		0.7%	-14.7%	-2.7%	5.5%	-9.2%
Old Kent Road		8.3%	-18.6%	-8.9%	5.5%	-13.1%
Peckham		3.7%	-18.0%	-3.1%	5.8%	-12.3%
Peckham Rye		2.7%	-18.2%	-3.2%	16.1%	-2.1%
Rotherhithe		10.2%	-8.5%	-22.1%	6.1%	-2.4%
Rye Lane		-0.9%	-12.1%	-4.8%	6.6%	-5.5%
South Bermondsey		14.4%	-9.6%	-25.4%	9.2%	-0.4%
St. George's		6.5%	1.9%	-32.8%	10.7%	12.6%
St. Giles		2.1%	-5.1%	-3.6%	-3.9%	-9.0%
Surrey Docks		4.5%	2.8%	-34.2%	11.5%	14.2%
		Con	Lab	Lib	Green	
Total 2021 vs 2018	Total 2021 vs 2018	4.0%	-8.0%	-14.9%	7.1%	-0.9%
Total 2021 vs 2016	Total 2021 vs 2016	-1.6%	-2.2%	-4.9%	5.6%	