



Pop-up Secure Bicycle Parking

Leeds Cycling Campaign were at Chapel Allerton Arts Festival, 31st Aug 2024

The problem: Bike theft is endemic. It is costly, upsetting and discourages people from cycling.

What we want: Leeds Cycling Campaign want to see greater support for cycling in Leeds. Knowing that you can lock and leave your bike somewhere secure is one of the most important ways to encourage people to make more journeys by bicycle. We want more extensive secure bicycle parking across Leeds city centre, and the wider city. We have been pressing the issue with Leeds City Council who recognise its importance. We want more urgent action by the Council and all organisations able to make a difference, large or small. We think there should be a variety of secure bike parking provision in Leeds and want to see more extensive provision in spaces where there is natural, and ideally dedicated, surveillance by CCTV or security wardens.

What have we done? We have campaigned for suitable provision in car parks, bike hangars in the city centre and re-purposing of disused shop units, and are pushing for secure bike parking inclusion in planning applications for offices and flats in Leeds. What do you want to see? Let us know by emailing us or posting on the Campaign Facebook page.



Acting ourselves: Leeds Cycling Campaign offered pop-up bike parking at Chapel Allerton Arts Festival on Sat 31st August. We encouraged people to cycle to the Festival, brought our new 'toast rack' bike parking stands, and watched over their bikes. The stands were well used throughout the day, illustrating high demand for bike parking. People's gratitude that we would watch over their bikes highlights the importance of feeling confident that your bike is not at risk.

The police were alongside us marking and registering bikes. If you haven't yet, you can register your bike at bikeregister.com

We plan to offer more stewarded bike parking at community events in Leeds so get in touch (email below) if you are running an event and want to support more people to cycle there.



What (else) would support more cycling in Leeds?

We also ran a stall at the Chapel Allerton event and collected people's ideas about supporting cycling in Leeds. We had a lot of conversations with passers-by about improving cycling in Leeds; they shared ideas on post-it notes which they stuck onto our

You can get in touch with us at contact@leedscyclingcampaign.co.uk;

*Cycle North offer training for all who want to learn or become more confident: <https://www.cyclenorth.co.uk/>

campaign board. These mostly linked to 3 areas of concern:

Secure bike parking

People want more security against theft:

'Secure bike parking around the city, with policing/ CCTV';

'secure, 24 hour bike parking in city centre! Repurpose empty units?'; 'bike storage in empty shop units in Leeds';

'resident covered parking (eg. hangars); 'bike prison (lock-up) where you put your bikes to be safe'; Harehills – no bike space'.

Safe cycle lanes: room for improvement

People were pleased with the more extensive cycle lane provision in Leeds but had lots of concerns about safety and upkeep:

'More protected bike lanes'; 'more segregated bike lanes'; 'more cycling lanes that don't randomly end'; 'more cycling lanes separated from the road including routes around complex junctions';

'Sweep cycle lanes'; 'Potholes dealt with on cycle lanes and edge of roads'.

Various people proposed new or more joined up and safe cycle paths:

'on Scott Hall Road'; 'Chapelton/Harrogate Road'; 'Meanwood Road'; 'in Beeston'. For one passer-by: 'cycle lanes into town [from Harehills] was a life changer'.

Regarding safety more generally: 'motorists don't see you and don't care'. There were asks for 'education of car drivers', 'more tolerant drivers' and 'more car free streets'.

Making cycling more accessible

A number of people highlighted the importance of enabling cycling for different groups, especially those who would like to cycle more but face barriers:

*'Free 1 hour refresher /training sessions for cycling in the city (for those who are nervous)';**

'Graded maps /routes for less able cyclists'; 'easy to use map/guide for cycling in Leeds (paper and online)';

Rethinking 'pricing of e-bikes. Eg. free for 16-25 year olds';

'Cheap bikes to hire (and money go to charity)'.



Leeds Cycling Campaign represents your ideas and concerns to Leeds City Council, WYCA and other organisations across Leeds.

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