

Comment on a planning application

Application Details

Application: 18/0549/FUL

Address: Chalkers Corner Junction At Junction Of Lower Richmond Rd South Circ And Clifford Avenue Richmond

Proposal: APPLICATION C: Reconfiguration of Chalkers Corner traffic junction, to include existing public highway and existing landscaped and informal parking area associated to Chertsey Court, to facilitate alterations to lane configuration, a new cycle lane, works to existing pedestrian and cycle crossing, soft landscaping and replacement boundary treatment to Chertsey Court.

Comments Made By

Name: Richmond Cycling Campaign Mr Tim Lennon

Address: 18 Spencer Gardens East Sheen London SW14 7AH

Comments

Type of comment: Object to the proposal

Comment: Dear Richmond Council.

I am responding to this planning application on behalf of Richmond Cycling Campaign, the local branch of London Cycling Campaign.

We object to planning application C on the following grounds:

1. It is in breach of the Mayor's Transport Strategy goals because it fails to support the aims for reduction in motor traffic, and proper support for walking and cycling.
2. The design utterly fails to provide suitable conditions for walking and cycling, and prioritises the movement of large volumes of motor traffic over all other uses at the junction.
3. The overall design for the area and the development does not have any provision for walking and cycling from the development to any destination. Only the existing provision (of pavements, and small sections of unsafe cycle lane) remains.

4. For a site with a 1,200+ person school, the absence of active travel provision is unacceptable. (Whatever the size of the school, there is clearly insufficient capacity for the increase in footfall or cycling which would be required to not turn the entire area to gridlock.
5. We believe that any plans for Chalker's Corner needs to be part of a wider traffic strategy in the area which is designed to move through traffic away from non-trunk roads, and which "bakes in" segregated cycling provision and safe walking provision to provide local people with genuine options for how they move around our borough.
6. The plans and design are not in compliance with council strategies on air quality and traffic.
7. The designs do not meet the requirements set out in the council development management plan: https://www.richmond.gov.uk/media/11616/final_development_management_plan_adopted_nov_2011.pdf.
In particular:
 - Create or improve links with the local and wider transport networks, including links to the cycle and pedestrian networks (see page 101)
 - Protect maintain or improve the pedestrian environment (see page 103) for the increased number of pedestrian movements on & off the site
 - Maintain and improve conditions for cyclists (see page 105). With the increased population & increased number of journeys, conditions on the roads & towpath are likely to be worsened for cyclists.
 - Ensure that excessive parking demand is not created which could have an adverse impact on the local highway/ traffic conditions (see page 106)
8. The proposal is not compliant with TfL's 'Streetscape Guidance', the London Cycle Design Standards (LCDS), nor does it include a Healthy Streets check. It is our opinion that the designs would fail both an LCDS review, and a Healthy Streets check, with Chalker's Corner including a number of 'critical fails' in the LCDS review.

In general, the failure to provide for active travel is a fundamental failing of this plan. If we build dense new developments like this, which assume high levels of car use, then that is what we will get.