

# Removal of cycle barriers LB Lewisham

In order to facilitate the safe and continuous movement of cyclists along Links 141 and 143 LB Lewisham have removed three key cycle barriers. The barriers provided obstructions on the Links and also reduced permeability on to the Links for cyclists. On Eddystone Bridge cycle barriers were removed and a two metre wide segregated cycle path was provided with anti-skid surfacing alongside a two metre wide footway. The bridge is above railway lines and poor drainage and surface materials meant that the surface was prone to icy conditions during winter. Care was taken during the design to keep the cycle facility the same width as the footpath in order to ensure that pedestrians have no incentive to use the cycle path. Feedback from stakeholders has been extremely positive and encouraging. Local councillors have also been very positive about the scheme as they requested the removal of all the barriers. A CCTV column has also been installed as part of the scheme as before the barrier removal there were reports of cyclists being robbed as they negotiated them. The improved social safety has also provided benefits for the pedestrians. The bridge represents a significant shortcut for cyclists heading between Brockley and Southwark and so the improvements have opened up and improved this vital section of the Link.



**Above:** Eddystone Bridge segregated cycle path. **Below:** Brookmill Park

Two other barrier removal schemes have also been completed in Lewisham at Sevenoaks Road and Brookmill Park. In Sevenoaks Road a shared path through a road closure was blocked by two overlapping railings and had no drop kerbs and in Brookmill Park barriers and metal grids impeded a segregated cycle path. Bollards and drop kerbs were installed to improve access to the Sevenoaks

Road shared path, and tactile paving was introduced and the barriers removed at the entrances to Brookmill Park. This kind of focussed approach to removing dismount points and obstructions can have a significant effect on the attractiveness of routes for cyclists and should be considered as a high priority when improving cycling facilities along Links of this type.

Photo 1: Before



Photo 2: After



“ I received positive feedback from a disabled boy with a tricycle who is now able to use the cycle route through the park. ”

Carole Crankshaw - Borough Cycling Officer, LB Lewisham