From: Norman Will (Will Norman, Walking & Cycling Commissioner)

26 February 2021 15:21 Sent:

To: rbkc.gov.uk

rbkc.gov.uk; Cherry Dominic Cc:

RE: Battersea Bridge road junction and NCN4 Subject:



As this is a TfL led scheme, I'd be delighted for you to join the group as I know that the plans would greatly benefit from Sustrans' expertise. I've asked the TfL team to share the invite with you for the next session.

Will

## Will Norman Mayor's Walking & Cycling Commissioner

City Hall | The Queen's Walk | London | SE1 2AA

Please consider the environment before printing this e-mail

sustrans.org.uk>

Sent: 25 February 2021 16:54

To: Norman Will (Will Norman, Walking & Cycling Commissioner) < tfl.gov.uk>;

rbkc.gov.uk

rbkc.gov.uk; Cherry Dominic CC: rbkc.gov.uk>;

@tfl.gov.uk>

Subject: Battersea Bridge road junction and NCN4

Dear Will Norman and Cllr Johnny Thalassites.

Please find attached a letter from Sustrans concerning the planned improvements at Battersea Bridge. As custodian of National Cycle Network route 4 which uses this junction I write asking to be involved in the design and agreement of future plans in this area.

Kind regards,

Head of NCN, London

[Sustrans London team are currently working from home] Office: Mobile:

sustrans.org.uk Twitter: @SustransLondon

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Head Office Sustrans 2 Cathedral Square College Green Bristol BS1 5DD T: 0117 926 8893 www.sustrans.org.uk

Will Norman, London Cycling & Walking commissioner Cllr Johnny Thalassites. Lead member for Planning, Place and Environment. Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

25 February 2021

Dear Will Norman and Cllr Johnny Thalassites.

## Re: Battersea Bridge road junction

I write on behalf of Sustrans London regarding plans for improvements at the northern junction of Battersea Bridge (Battersea Bridge Road/Cheyne walk/Beaufort St) in RBKC and on the TLRN following the recent tragic death of Jack Ryan. We welcome plans to make this junction safe for walking, wheeling and cycling.

We would like to be involved as a stakeholder to ensure designs take National Cycle Network route 4 into account. Please let me know who we should be in contact with to talk about this in more detail.

Sustrans are custodians of the <u>National Cycle Network</u> (NCN) and route 4 (Greenwich – Fishguard) uses this junction. This route passes east/west through this junction, using the shared space footway between the A3220 and the river (see picture for alignment). This route is also known as the Thames Path Cycle Route, a companion to the Thames Path national trail. Internationally it is also the <u>Eurovelo 2 'Capitals route'</u> linking Dublin, London, Berlin, Warsaw, Minsk and Moscow.



The primary purpose of the 150 miles of NCN in London is to help Londoners access their local green spaces by walking, wheeling and cycling. This section should help local residents of all abilities access and explore central London, the Thames path, Barnes common and Richmond park, but at present we are unable to promote this important route section in the centre of our Capital city as it doesn't meet our standard of 'paths for everyone'. This standard was established as part of a UK-wide review of the 16,000 miles of NCN in 2018.

## Improvement areas for discussion

- Safe crossings on all arms of this junction are needed. A toucan crossing is essential on the Battersea Bridge Road arm.
- We would also like to use this process as an opportunity to secure wider improvements even with a safer crossing here the current compromise of a narrow shared space footway for walking, wheeling and cycling here is not good enough. We would like to see separate space for pedestrians, cyclists and drivers so all have space to make their journeys safely.
- We are also interested in understanding planned improvements in the wider area. We
  want to improve the quality of this route between Putney Bridge and Lambeth Bridge. We
  would like to discuss our ambitions for this further with RBKC with the aim of agreeing
  shared goals to achieve this with the Boroughs on this route.

We look forward to working together with you on this.

Yours.

Head of National Cycle Network, London sustrans.org.uk

cc: RBKC Transport Policy Manager. Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

RBKC Highways Manager. Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

cc: Dominic Cherry. Sponsor, Transport for London

From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC <

**Sent:** 25 February 2021 17:08

To: Norman Will (Will Norman, Walking & Cycling Commissioner)

**Cc:** RBKC; Cherry Dominic; Rob McGibbon;

Subject: Re: Battersea Bridge road junction and NCN4

Dear ,

Many thanks for such a kind offer.

I'm afraid, however, that as we've made such fast progress - indeed, a breakthrough - on the southern arm with a core local group, led by Rob McGibbon, I would like to keep that same core group involved in the design process for any future phase(s).

I'm also grateful to the Chelsea Society, Cheyne Walk Trust, Oakley St RA and Lots Village RA for their input.

I've no doubt that after the focused design process, there will be an opportunity for other groups, including Sustrans, to comment on plans at full consultation.

All best wishes,

Johnny Thalassites

### Get Outlook for iOS

From: sustrans.org.uk>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 4:54 pm

To: tfl.gov.uk; Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC

Cc: RBKC; RBKC; @tfl.gov.uk

Subject: Battersea Bridge road junction and NCN4

Dear Will Norman and Cllr Johnny Thalassites.

Please find attached a letter from Sustrans concerning the planned improvements at Battersea Bridge. As custodian of National Cycle Network route 4 which uses this junction I write asking to be involved in the design and agreement of future plans in this area.

Kind regards,

Head of NCN, London

Office: [Sustrans London team are currently working from home]

Email: <u>sustrans.org.uk</u> Twitter: @SustransLondon

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From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC <

Sent: 07 April 2021 09:17
To: Rees Penny; Byford Andy

Cc: Killingbeck lain; Edwards Rob (ST); RBKC; RBKC; Rob

McGibbon;

**Subject:** Re: CAD drawings for Battersea Bridge junction

Thanks - will cross my fingers there's something we can all support and progress quickly!

# Get Outlook for iOS

From: Rees Penny < tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: Wednesday, April 7, 2021 9:12 am

To: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC; Byford Andy

Cc: Killingbeck lain; Edwards Rob (ST); RBKC; RBKC; RBKC;

Rob McGibbon;

Subject: RE: CAD drawings for Battersea Bridge junction

Yes of course, no problem – there are a couple of other options floating around that I also want to fully understand before we come back to you (watch this space!).

From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk>

Sent: 07 April 2021 08:11

To: Rees Penny < tfl.gov.uk>; Byford Andy tfl.gov.uk>

 Cc: Killingbeck lain
 @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST)
 @TfL.gov.uk>;

 <</td>
 rbkc.gov.uk>;
 @rbkc.gov.uk>;

RBKC < @rbkc.gov.uk>; Rob McGibbon

@gmail.com>

Subject: Re: CAD drawings for Battersea Bridge junction

Dear Penny,

Good to hear from you too.

I'm sure a design workshop may be useful in due course - and I suggest that we involve the same group that reached a positive solution for the southern arm ( ). That should keep up the momentum!

However, I do think it's important that our officers have a chance to look at the CAD files once internal checks have been completed. Please could you confirm we will have a chance to look at these in good time before a design has been settled by TfL?

See you soon,

## Johnny

```
From: Rees Penny <
                                  tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: 06 April 2021 20:49
To: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC <
                                                              rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy
              tfl.gov.uk>
Cc: Killingbeck lain <
                                  @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) <
                                                                                @TfL.gov.uk>;
                RBKC <
                                          rbkc.gov.uk>;
                                                                   : RBKC <
                                                                                      @rbkc.gov.uk>;
           : RBKC <
                                @rbkc.gov.uk>; Rob McGibbon
                         @gmail.com>
```

Subject: RE: CAD drawings for Battersea Bridge junction

Dear Cllr Thalassites,

Good to hear from you, and hope you had a relaxing long weekend.

The CAD files have not yet been through an internal check and approval process, but I suggest that when we get to an appropriate point in the design we share these - and perhaps have a design workshop at that point too? Can you let me know who you would like to be involved in the workshop?

See you soon,

### Penny

```
rbkc.gov.uk>
From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC <
Sent: 06 April 2021 08:42
To: Rees Penny <
                               tfl.gov.uk>; Byford Andy <
                                                                     tfl.gov.uk>
Cc: Killingbeck lain
                                  @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) <
                                                                                @TfL.gov.uk>;
                                                                        @rbkc.gov.uk>;
                            rbkc.gov.uk>;
                                                    : RBKC
RBKC
                   @rbkc.gov.uk>; Rob McGibbon
                @gmail.com>
```

Subject: CAD drawings for Battersea Bridge junction

Dear Penny,

Really hope you're well and that you had a good Easter.

Thanks again for your work on the crossing on the southern arm of Battersea Bridge.

I wanted to write to ask for your help getting the CAD drawings for the junction, though, as I understand that's been a bit trickier than anticipated and that our officers would like to take a look. They would like to check the tracking on the left turn into Beaufort St for cars and light goods vehicles.

appreciated.
Look forward to catching up in due course.
All best wishes,
Johnny
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**********

I know that it isn't unusual for CAD drawings to be shared - our team tell me this happens fairly regularly. Given the wide interest and desire to make urgent progress, anything you can do to assist would be greatly

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From: Byford Andy

**Sent:** 16 February 2021 13:15

To: Rees Penny; 'Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC'; Killingbeck Iain; Edwards Rob (ST)

Cc: Rob McGibbon; RBKC; Greg Hands; Devenish (Cllr),

Tony; : RBKC; Cllr, Hargreaves, Gerard:

**RBKC** 

Subject: Re: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction

We will stick at this until we get a solution that works - and that may need movement on all sides.

In the meantime, thanks to both Penny and Cllr Thalassites for the hard work done to date.

We can do this

Andy

# Get Outlook for iOS

```
From: Rees Penny <
                                 tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:27:00 PM
To: 'Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC' <
                                                             rbkc.gov.uk>; Killingbeck lain
              @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) <
                                                            @TfL.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob McGibbon
                                                                           @gmail.com>;
                            rbkc.gov.uk>;
                                                                         @rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy
                                             @parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony
              tfl.gov.uk>; Greg Hands
                                                        @btopenworld.com>;
                                                                                             RBKC
                @rbkc.gov.uk>;
                                                : RBKC
                                                                          @rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr,
Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC <
                                                  @rbkc.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction
```

### TfL UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Johnny,

I understand – I think we all want a crossing on the north arm (i.e. you endorse the principle), but you feel you cannot endorse the specific design as it stands.

I am logged on briefly today, so continuing discussions in the background, and will loop back again next week.

Thanks again,

Penny

### TfL UNCLASSIFIED

```
From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC <
                                                               rbkc.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 February 2021 12:09
To: Rees Penny <
                               tfl.gov.uk>; Killingbeck lain
                                                                        @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob
                  @TfL.gov.uk>
(ST) <
Cc: Rob McGibbon
                                                                            l@gmail.com>;
                            rbkc.gov.uk>;
                                                                          @rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy
              tfl.gov.uk>; Greg Hands
                                              @parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony
                                                        @btopenworld.com>;
                                                                                             : RBKC
```

@rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr, @rbkc.gov.uk> RBKC < Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC @rbkc.gov.uk> Subject: Re: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction Dear Penny, Thanks for your email. I'm afraid I don't think this reflects a compromise, or the substance of our meeting. If the proposed scheme is taken forward, then TfL will not have modified their plans in any meaningful way since the start of our talks a few weeks ago. So, to be clear - in TfL's options paper, it says that the proposed crossing on the northern arm will be taken forward "subject to RBK&C endorsement". You do not have our endorsement for that approach. I hope that you will stay true to that word; and I urge you to explore our option for the northern arm, which RBK&C officers think can work and local people will support (notwithstanding TfL's view that staggered crossings may be suboptimal, they do benefit pedestrians). Best wishes, Johnny From: Rees Penny < tfl.gov.uk> Sent: 15 February 2021 17:16 To: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk>; Killingbeck lain @tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) @TfL.gov.uk> Cc: Rob McGibbon < @gmail.com>; RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk>; @rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford tfl.gov.uk>; Greg Hands @parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony Andy < @btopenworld.com>; RBKC @rbkc.gov.uk>; : RBKC < @rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr, Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC @rbkc.gov.uk>

### TfL UNCLASSIFIED

Subject: RE: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction

Dear Cllr Thalassites,

It was good to see you this morning, and thanks again to you and for your very helpful input and ideas to date. I am delighted we have collectively achieved consensus in support of the Battersea Bridge Crossing proposals.

I felt it worth clarifying again TfL's recommendation for the wider junction, which remains the provision of straight across crossings on both Beaufort Street and Battersea Bridge – as well as a crossing on Cheyne Walk.

#### Western arm

As you note, we have **two options for Cheyne Walk**: a straight across crossing (facilitated by a banned left turn from Battersea Bridge, to maintain traffic flow around the area) - or a staggered crossing. Staggered crossings are considered sub-optimal for pedestrians when measured against the Healthy Streets check for designers, as they are less direct - and are therefore less likely to be used safely.

However, we appreciate that a banned left turn from Battersea Bridge would lead to substantial traffic diversions, and is therefore strongly opposed by your stakeholders. As an alternative, we have recommended a design for consultation that includes a staggered pedestrian crossing on Cheyne Walk, and two straight-across crossings on Beaufort Street and Battersea Bridge. TfL and our world class engineers believe this provides the optimal balance for all road users, and a safer layout for pedestrians.

#### Northern arm

Again, to maintain traffic flow through the area, a **straight-across crossing on Beaufort Street** requires a restriction on the left turn movement from Cheyne Walk into Beaufort Street – used by approximately 30-40 vehicles in the busiest hour (compared to ~80 pedestrians). We understand this causes a concern for some stakeholders, as low volumes of traffic will divert via nearby alternative routes (e.g. the King's Rd).

You have tabled an alternative option, which I understand provides **two staggered crossings on Cheyne Walk and Beaufort Street**, a limit on the size of vehicles entering Beaufort Street, and an "ahead and left" eastbound nearside traffic lane on Cheyne Walk. This is not an option we have explored, due to the issues with staggered crossings set out above.

Unfortunately, we are not currently in a position to endorse this alternative option as it is viewed as a compromise too far for pedestrians (particularly as the crossing distance on Beaufort Street is not significant – unlike on Cheyne Walk – meaning the staggered arrangement is unlikely to be well used on Beaufort St).

#### Next steps

I appreciate this leaves us at an impasse in relation to crossings on the northern and western arms, and therefore I suggest we put the engineer's recommendation out to consultation to enable us to fully gauge public opinion. As explained in our meeting, this open consultation would enable us to review feedback from both local road users, and the wider community – including the opportunity for people to comment on specific elements of the proposals (i.e. express support for one element, but not another). We would then review this feedback with RBK&C before recommending a final option for implementation as swiftly as possible. This implementation could potentially be staged, as you suggest below – although as explained in the meeting, a two-stage delivery would increase the level of disruption to road users during the construction periods.

Thanks again for your enthusiasm and involvement to date – I am on leave until Monday, but if you have any further questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact Rob or Iain in my absence.

With thanks,

Penny

# TfL UNCLASSIFIED

<	tfl.gov.uk>; Greg Hands <	@parliament.uk>; Dev	enish (Cllr), Tony	
<	<u>.com</u> >;	@btopenwo	orld.com>;	: RBKC
	@rbkc.gov.uk>,	: RBKC	@rbkc.gov.uk>	; Cllr,
Hargrea	ves, Gerard: RBKC	@rbkc.gov.uk>	7	

Subject: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction

Dear Penny,

I wanted to thank you, again, for your help with making Battersea Bridge safe to cross. I also wanted to thank Rob McGibbon for his recent campaign, which has helped all parties make progress.

The Council especially appreciates TfL's commitment to fund a scheme for Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge and to disaggregate this from Cycle Superhighway 8.

Over the past few weeks, the Council has discussed issues at the junction with major local stakeholders and has now established a consensus. To save time 'optioneering' on bad WiFi (!) tomorrow, I will set out our views (below).

For the avoidance of doubt, we have in support: Rob McGibbon, who launched the 25,000-strong petition to improve the junction, the Chelsea Society, the Cheyne Walk Trust, Oakley Street Residents' Association, Lots Village Chelsea Residents Association, Greg Hands MP and Tony Devenish AM.

We believe that our views, which RBKC officers have advised represent a deliverable scheme, can greatly improve pedestrian and cycle safety at the junction - and can be built out at pace. We hope this will become a 'win' for all parties - with TfL principally responsible for an extremely popular safety scheme in the borough that responds to the urgency of the recent campaign.

- <u>Southern arm:</u> we support TfL's ambition for a new crossing on this arm of the junction, and we understand this is unlikely to be a toucan crossing.
- Western arm: we support TfL's ambition for a new staggered crossing on this arm of the junction (as TfL set out in its options paper).
- Northern arm:
- (1) we are asking TfL to introduce a staggered crossing with a weight restriction for left-turning vehicles that is 'enforced' by the width of the carriageway, and which could also be signalled by a 'No Left Turn' sign with supplementary plates to indicate vehicles above a weight limit (whilst noting this may not be sufficient to issue PCNs).

This approach has precedent. TfL has done this on roads in RBKC - for example, in relation to right-turning vehicles going from the A4 into Earls Court Road (at night). This is also an arrangement that is in operation at the Kensington High Street/Earls Court Road junction in RBKC.

(2) If TfL do not believe that option (1) can be delivered - then we ask that TfL considers tightening the north eastern kerb-line to reduce the crossing distance for pedestrians and to help reduce the 'left hook' risk for cyclists. We would also support TfL raising the level of the road to the level of the footway (i.e. an entry treatment), or a [shallow, so as not to disproportionately impact buses] coloured or textured surfacing.

Whilst we appreciate that TfL must manage stakeholders' positions, we strongly believe these views balance the interests and needs of *all* road users (and note that major local stakeholders - those who know and traverse the junction most regularly - share our assessment of the proportionality of different interventions).

If we are not in a position to bring forward option (1) or (2) for the northern arm, for whatever reason, then the Council is open to bringing forward consultation on 'two crossings' (southern and western arms, as described, above) before purdah - with a view to build in 2021 - and continuing dialogue on the northern arm, which could form a 'phase two' for improvements at the junction.

Whatever happens, we want to keep up the momentum. Looking forward to our conversation tomorrow and very much hope we can move things forward.

All best wishes,

Johnny Thalassites

Lead Member for Planning, Place and the Environment, RBKC

\*

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

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Byford Andy From: 05 March 2021 17:32 Sent: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC To: Re: Thank you re Battersea Bridge **Subject:** Hi Councillor Thanks very much for your note. It's good that we have agreement on the southern arm, as you say, and I'd like to thank you for your participation in and leadership on, this very important issue. Our teams have worked very well together and this will continue while we progress the other outstanding issues at Battersea Bridge. Very best wishes Andy Get Outlook for iOS From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk> Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 4:59:54 PM To: Byford Andy < tfl.aov.uk> Subject: Thank you re Battersea Bridge Dear Andy, I wanted to thank you for your personal interest in delivering a scheme quickly on the southern arm of the Battersea Bridge junction. Whilst the circumstances that have accelerated progress are tragic, the crossing will make the area safer. It may save lives. We should be proud of building a scheme this year (if that proves possible). I appreciate that RBKC and TfL have had our moments in recent times. That makes this kind of breakthrough still more heartening. I realise that we can achieve a lot when we work together on schemes. I hope we can find common ground on the northern and western arms over the coming months. Best wishes, Johnny

\*

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

I will treat as confidential all personal information you give to me. It's likely I will have to share this information with others in order to help you. I will handle the information you give me in line with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and Data Protection Act 2018. A privacy statement explaining more about what information I collect and how it is processed is available here:

https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councillors-and-committees/councillor-privacy-notice

This e-mail may contain information which is confidential, legally privileged and/or copyright protected. This e-mail is intended for the addressee only. If you receive this in error, please contact the sender and delete the material from your computer.

From: HHASC Accessible Transport: RBKC <Accessible.Transport@rbkc.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 02 April 2021 16:13

**To:** Byford Andy

**Subject:** Automatic reply: BATTERSEA BRIDGE NORTHSIDE pedestrian crossing urgently needed

Thank you for your email, please do not reply to this email. This is an acknowledgement of receipt of email.

We will endeavour to deal with your query during office hours, which are 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday excluding Bank Holidays.

For information on how you can apply for Accessible Transport Services, please visit our website: https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/parking-transport-and-streets/accessible-transport/accessible-transport-0

# Kind regards

Accessible Transport Team
The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

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From: Traffic: ES-Park: RBKC <Traffic@rbkc.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 02 April 2021 16:13

**To:** Byford Andy

**Subject:** Automatic reply: BATTERSEA BRIDGE NORTHSIDE pedestrian crossing urgently needed

Thank you for your email, which will be shared with the relevant officer(s). If you have asked a question, we aim to respond within ten working days.

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From: : RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 26 February 2021 15:21

**To:** Norman Will (Will Norman, Walking & Cycling Commissioner) **Subject:** Automatic reply: Battersea Bridge road junction and NCN4

Thank you for your email.

I am not available until the 1st March.

Emails I receive during this period will not be answered.

If you require a response during this time please resend to my colleagues below.

Yours sincerely

If you need a response during this time, please resend it to:

Highways maintenance highways@rbkc.gov.uk Streetlighting issues streetlighting@rbkc.gov.uk

@rbkc.gov.uk projects
@rbkc.gov.uk structures
@rbkc.gov.uk highways maintenence
@rbkc.gov.uk streetlighting

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From: RBKC < rbkc.gov.uk>

**Sent:** 16 February 2021 13:16

To: Byford Andy

**Subject:** Automatic reply: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction

Thanks for your email. I will be away from the office until Monday 22 February 2021.

For very urgent issues, please contact:

@rbkc.gov.uk (sustainable travel, cycling)
@rbkc.gov.uk (traffic and road safety)
@rbkc.gov.uk (parking, public transport)
@rbkc.gov.uk (planning)

Thank you

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