

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 10 September 2021 09:50
To: Byford Andy
Subject: Fwd: AB quote?

Hello Andy

It was great to see you the other night. I find your career quite fascinating! I hope we can meet up again some time.

For your info' - I feel I must copy you in on the exchange I have just had with TFL's comms team. Amazing!

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

All the best

Rob

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: AB quote?
Date: 10 September 2021 at 09:40:20 BST
To: Murray Mika [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>, Hatch Andrew [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Cc: Rees Penny [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>

Thank you, Mika and Andrew

This actually made me laugh, then it made me angry.

[REDACTED]

we've worked closely with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to bring forward our proposals to improve safety at this busy junction as quickly as possible.

[REDACTED]

Regards

Rob

On 10 Sep 2021, at 09:18, Murray Mika [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk> wrote:

Hello again,

Please see below for our quote on this.

City Hall have chosen to respond to media queries about this and their spokesperson is Will Norman - because of the way we work together, we wouldn't have a separate TfL quote.

Hope this makes sense.

Thanks very much,

Mika

Will Norman, London's Walking & Cycling Commissioner
said: "Any death or serious injury on London's streets is one too many and we are absolutely committed to making the capital's roads safer for everyone.

"Following the tragic death of Jack Ryan on Battersea Bridge earlier this year, we've worked closely with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea to bring forward our proposals to improve safety at this busy junction as quickly as possible. We are planning to start construction work on a new pedestrian crossing at Cheyne Walk in late October and will continue to work with the council and other partners on our Vision Zero commitment to eliminate death and serious injury on London's transport network."

From: Murray Mika [REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: 09 September 2021 14:12
To: Hatch Andrew <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: AB quote?

Hi Rob,

So sorry for the delay in getting back to you - will hopefully be able to send something to you by the end of the day, if not tomorrow morning at the latest.

Hope this is OK.

Thanks,

Mika

From: Hatch Andrew <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 September 2021 13:04
To: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Re: AB quote?

Afternoon Rob

I've asked my colleague in the Press Office - Mike Murray - to get onto this for you. One of us will come back to you.

Andrew Hatch
Community Partnerships Specialist
Transport for London | Local Communities & Partnerships
Mobile: [REDACTED] | Email: [REDACTED]@TfL.gov.uk

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, September 7, 2021 12:35:38 PM
To: Hatch Andrew <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: AB quote?

Hi Andrew

I am doing a story for the local press about the start date. Please can you provide me with an official comment from Andy Byford?

BTW - I do not want one from Will Norman because his involvement has been less clear cut. I will not be able to include one from him. Just the Main Man

Any chance we can move on this really swiftly?

reagrds

Rob

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 22 January 2021 11:49
To: Byford Andy
Cc: Tagg Ella (ST); Branks Kirsten
Subject: Fwd: Commissioner Andy Byford visits Battersea Bridge

Dear Andy

For your info' - earlier, I sent this up-date to the various people who I have been in touch with on this matter recently.

Regards

Rob

Begin forwarded message:

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Commissioner Andy Byford visits Battersea Bridge
Date: 22 January 2021 at 11:00:10 GMT
Cc: "Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC" <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>, Greg Hands <[REDACTED]@greghands.com>, Tony Devenish <[REDACTED]>, Gerard Hargreaves <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] : TTS-TransHighways: RBKC" <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>, [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>

Dear All

I am writing because I have recently contacted you regarding safety at Battersea Bridge.

I started a petition on 17th January to help force change at this location. So far the 'Make Battersea Bridge Safe To Cross' campaign has 18,000 signatures and has gained widespread publicity.

A read through of the comments section of the petition will give everyone a clear insight (if needed!) into the issues regarding this junction.

https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-make-battersea-bridge-safe-to-cross?recruiter=161208519&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition

I simply wanted to up-date you on a significant development.

I met with TFL Commissioner Andy Byford at the bridge yesterday afternoon. This was a one-to-one and quite impromptu meeting following a letter from me demanding he and TFL act urgently to improve safety at the bridge.

Mr Byford had suggested in earlier emailed correspondence that he would ask his officers to deal with the situation as a matter of priority. Although I was happy with his positive response, I feared the "long grass" and implored him to visit the bridge and see the situation for himself. I was impressed and grateful that he - literally - got on his bike and did just that.

At the bridge, I was able to explain in detail the multiple issues that face pedestrians - and drivers - at this crossroads. He was aghast at the situation and certainly believes something HAS to be done. I was also able to explain the events surrounding Jack Ryan's death on 13th January.

I am pushing for things to move quickly and Mr Byford said he WILL facilitate that. However, I concur with an observation he made that any change has to be done carefully, with the right modelling and all-round expert advice, etc. Nothing should be done in haste that could lead, as he said, to "unintended consequences". I think we would all agree with that.

Mr Byford said that he will be arranging to connect TFL officers with relevant officers and councillors at RBKC as soon as possible. I understand from Mr Thalassites that RBKC is ready to work positively with TFL to find a solution.

Although I am no traffic expert, I would like to be kept in the loop on anything that transpires. If it is allowable, I would like to attend any meetings (maybe a specific committee can be set up to steer some aspects of this action?).

I said to Mr Byford that I consider making Battersea Bridge safe for pedestrians as a specific situation and that it should be treated as such. It should not be lumped in with other issues (in a tweet Mr Will Norman alluded to TFL's Streetscape Programme being "blocked" by RBKC, which struck me as unhelpful and a distraction).

I hope everyone can all move forward in a spirit of positivity with a common goal to make something happen as quickly as possible. THIS CAN BE DONE.

My campaign will continue until a Green Man (or similar!) lights up on that crossroads at Battersea Bridge.

Kind regards

Rob McGibbon

< Go to my petition's dashboard

PETITION UPDATE

TFL COMMISSIONER ANDY BYFORD MEETS ROB McGIBBON

**Rob McGibbon**

London, ENG, United Kingdom

21 JAN 2021 —

Today, I had a 45 minute, one-to-one meeting with Andy Byford, Commissioner for Transport For London.

He met me at Battersea Bridge where we discussed in detail the multiple issues that pedestrians and drivers face whilst negotiating the crossroads on the northern junction with Cheyne Walk. It was a highly productive meeting in which Mr Byford assured me that he is determined to help find a solution to the concerns that so many people have expressed in the comments section of this petition.

I was greatly impressed that he was willing to engage with me directly and listen to the central arguments of this campaign. I was also grateful for his time. I had said in an earlier email exchange with him that day that I did not want this campaign to

ROB MCGIBBON

Email:

[REDACTED]

Website:

www.robmcgibbon.com

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 03 February 2021 12:55
To: Byford Andy
Subject: Latest news articles

Dear Andy

Just a quick private communication - without the teams Cc'd - to simply touch base with an up-date.

Some productive meetings have been taking place with various stakeholders and it looks like we are heading in a positive direction. Certain designs are in play and are being thoroughly discussed. That said, I was slightly alarmed yesterday by "strongly" held views relayed from the Cycling Commissioner regarding the banning of several turns and the desire to pushed towards consulting publicly on those. I am hopeful that these issues can be averted because they could pole-axe us all locally.

I also wanted to draw your attention to a few articles that have recently gone live. I have bigged you up in one of them!

[REDACTED]

The campaign hit 25K signatures not long ago.

Hope you are well

all the best

Rob

Read this one first - SW Londoner: <https://www.swlondoner.co.uk/news/02022021-tfl-makes-battersea-bridge-safety-project-funded-scheme/>

My London: <https://www.mylondon.news/news/south-london-news/battersea-bridge-accident-hotspot-safety-19755585>

London News Online: <https://londonnewsonline.co.uk/petition-to-make-battersea-bridge-safer-gains-24700-signatures-after-jogger-dies-in-collision/>



Welcome back to Change.org! A new petition wins every hour thanks to signers like you.

< Go to my petition's dashboard

MAKE BATTERSEA BRIDGE SAFE TO CROSS



Rob McGibbon started this petition to [Transport For London](#)

There is NO safe time for pedestrians to cross at the north side of Battersea Bridge.

Consequently, families with young children, the elderly, the disabled - indeed, *everyone* - is forced to make a perilous dash across this horrendously busy road in front of moving traffic.

25,000 have signed. Let's



Margot Cronin signed 15 m



Bethan Jones signed 16 m



Transport For Lon
Battersea Bridge S

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Show this petition to more supporters

ROB MCGIBBON

Email: [Redacted]

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Byford Andy
Sent: 09 February 2021 13:06
To: Rob McGibbon
Subject: Re:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Thanks Rob.

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 1:00:08 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Re:

Hi Andy

[REDACTED]

BTW - Penny Rees has been excellent. We are coming up against some details issues with local residents groups, but we inch ever closer to an agreed plan to put to consultation.

Thank you for continuing to give this your personal attention.

regards

Rob

On 9 Feb 2021, at 12:52, Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Rob

Sorry for the radio silence. I've been consumed with Crossrail and our covid related financial challenges

I'm glad that you are noticing action. Please be assured that I remain as determined as ever and as you, to deliver safety improvements at Battersea. My team know that this has my personal attention.

Please give Jack's family my best regards

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, February 9, 2021 10:59:24 AM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject:

Hi Andy ... it is important that we all keep smiling!

<Screen Shot 2021-02-09 at 10.57.33.png>

ROB M c G I B B O N

Email: [REDACTED]
Website: www.robmcgibbon.com
Twitter: @robmcgibbon

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ROB MCGIBBON

Email: 

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Byford Andy
Sent: 21 January 2021 17:11
To: Rob McGibbon
Subject: Re:

You're welcome. Please give Jack's family and friends my best wishes and deepest personal condolences.

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:39:55 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Re:

Hi Andy

Great stuff. Thank you.

Regards

Rob

On 21 Jan 2021, at 16:34, Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk> wrote:

Hi Rob

It was good to meet you, too.

As I said to you when we met, I had originally intended to visit the site on my own, to inform my input to the meeting that I called to discuss the issue (and of which I informed you in my last e mail).

But being there on site, seeing the memorial and observing the traffic made me want to better understand what happened, hence my short-notice invitation to join me.

I have just concluded the afore-mentioned meeting with my team and have asked them to put together a plan on immediate and longer term actions that we can share with you. On the short term list for consideration is removal of the one way walking system that you suggested and that we observed on site.

I will update you on next steps as soon as my team has finalised the action plan.

In the meantime, I am content for you to say that we met as the fact that we did shows how seriously TfL takes this matter - up to Commissioner level.

Regards

Andy Byford

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 4:22:29 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject:

Hello Andy

It was excellent to meet you earlier. Again, thank you VERY much for coming down.

I have not posted anything yet, but just checking, as I was left confused...

Am I allowed to say that a meeting happened, that you are on this, that progress will be made, that you are concerned? I will not phrase it in any way that makes you a hostage to fortune etc

Also, I remembered just after the meeting that I said in the ITV News interview words to this effect: "I am appealing directly to Andy Byford to come down to Battersea Bridge and see this shambles for himself..."

be careful what you wish for!

all the best

Rob

ROB M c G I B B O N

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

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ROB M c G I B B O N

Email: 

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Byford Andy
Sent: 19 February 2021 16:53
To: Rob McGibbon
Subject: Re:

And to you, Sir!

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 2:41:15 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject:

Great to chat earlier, Andy

I just posted this

<https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-make-battersea-bridge-safe-to-cross/u/28577595>

All power to you

cheers

Rob

ROB MCGIBBON

Email: [REDACTED]

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 16 February 2021 13:46
To: Byford Andy
Cc: Rees Penny; Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC; Killingbeck Iain; Edwards Rob (ST); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]: RBKC; Greg Hands; Devenish (Cllr), Tony; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]: RBKC; [REDACTED]: RBKC; Gerard Hargreaves
Subject: Re: Cheyne Walk/Beaufort Street/Battersea Bridge junction

Hi Andy - Thanks for stepping in with these much-needed words of positivity, commitment and support.

We have come a long way in a very short time on this. All credit to everyone for getting this far - so I echo the Thanks for the hard work done by Penny and Johnny (and officers Mark and Rob).

I remain available to be a bridge, so to speak, between all sides. I have no 'political skin' in the game and just want what is best for all, which I believe is possible.

This can be done and I hope this 'impasse' can pass as soon as possible. Let's keep thinking.

Regards

Rob

On 16 Feb 2021, at 13:15, Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk> wrote:

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

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From: Rees Penny <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: Tuesday, February 16, 2021 12:27:00 PM
To: 'Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC' <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Killingbeck Iain <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) <[REDACTED]@TfL.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]: RBKC <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Greg Hands <[REDACTED]@parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@btopenworld.com>; [REDACTED]: RBKC <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]: RBKC <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr, Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC <[REDACTED]@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 <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>
Sent: 16 February 2021 12:09
To: Rees Penny <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Killingbeck Iain <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>;
Edwards Rob (ST) <[REDACTED]@TfL.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]@gmail.com>; [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]
: RBKC <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Greg
Hands <[REDACTED]@parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony <[REDACTED]>; [REDACTED]
<[REDACTED]@btopenworld.com>; [REDACTED]: RBKC
<[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]: RBKC
<[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr, Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC
<[REDACTED]@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 <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Sent: 15 February 2021 17:16
To: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC [REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Killingbeck
Iain <[REDACTED]k@tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) [REDACTED]@TfL.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]l@gmail.com>; [REDACTED]: RBKC <[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>;
[REDACTED]: RBKC [REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy [REDACTED]tfl.gov.uk>;
Greg Hands [REDACTED]@parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony [REDACTED]>;
[REDACTED]@btpopenworld.com>; [REDACTED] RBKC
[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]: RBKC
[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [REDACTED]: RBKC
[REDACTED]@rbkc.gov.uk>

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

TfL UNCLASSIFIED

Dear Cllr Thalassites,

It was good to see you this morning, and thanks again to you and [REDACTED] 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

From: Cllr, Thalassites, Johnny: RBKC [redacted] <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>
Sent: 14 February 2021 18:20
To: Rees Penny [redacted] <[redacted]@tfl.gov.uk>; Killingbeck Iain [redacted] <[redacted]@tfl.gov.uk>; Edwards Rob (ST) [redacted] <[redacted]@TfL.gov.uk>
Cc: Rob McGibbon <[redacted]@gmail.com>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Byford Andy <[redacted]@parliament.uk>; Devenish (Cllr), Tony [redacted] <[redacted]@btopenworld.com>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>; [redacted] <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>; Cllr, Hargreaves, Gerard: RBKC <[redacted]@rbkc.gov.uk>

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.

- Southern arm: **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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ROB MCGIBBON

Email: 

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Byford Andy
Sent: 18 July 2021 09:51
To: Rob McGibbon
Subject: Re: Fank u

Cheers Rob - Penny is great

Thanks for continuing to bear with me. I will find a date for our drink, promise!

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, June 10, 2021 1:57:13 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Cc: Rees Penny <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Fank u

Hello Andy

Just to say - Penny has very helpfully answered my queries about Chelsea Bridge (and a clean up of Battersea Bridge). 10 TFL House Points to you both!

Thank you for jump-starting the supply of this information.

I am seriously considering setting up a 'Friends of London Bridges' organisation!

Regards

Rob

aka The Bridge Man

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 21 January 2021 09:44
To: Byford Andy
Cc: Tagg Ella (ST); Branks Kirsten
Subject: Re: Fatal accident on Battersea Bridge - Campaign to bring safety to the bridge

Hello Andy

Thank you for juggling your diary to attend to this. Excellent and most welcome news.

I will keep you up to date with any 'posting' I do regarding our correspondence. I will aim to simply send some screen grabs and links. I am minded not to overload your Inbox and take advantage of us being in direct contact. I appreciate you have a busy schedule...

That said - come to Chelsea TODAY ... The sun is out!!

best regards

Rob

On 21 Jan 2021, at 08:54, Byford Andy <[REDACTED]> [tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)> wrote:

Good morning, Rob

Thanks for your further note.

I have shuffled my diary to discuss this issue with key team members today and will respond further, once that has happened.

In the meantime, you may, of course, share my previous reply and this note, if you wish.

Regards

Andy Byford

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Thursday, January 21, 2021 8:02:46 AM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]> [tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>
Cc: Tagg Ella (ST) <[REDACTED]> [@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>; Branks Kirsten <[REDACTED]> [@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>
Subject: Re: Fatal accident on Battersea Bridge - Campaign to bring safety to the bridge

Dear Andy

My sincere thanks to you for your swift and direct reply to me. It is very much appreciated and I am greatly encouraged by your response and assertions.

I am ready to work closely with your team to offer background and advice on this matter - hard won from 25 years as a resident in this area.

However, may I politely ask that we all begin our direct discussions forthwith - rather than, as you state, "following their necessary conversations with the RBKC". This phrase filled me with utter dread of the "long grass".

My whole intention with this campaign is to get action NOW and not allow it to be dragged into the myriad of historical issues on this matter.

I see it as very simple: the north end of Battersea Bridge and its crossroads needs urgent safety attention - NOT endless meetings on Zoom/Teams.

May I suggest two simple and doable initiatives that we can crack on with today that will maintain vital momentum:

1. Can you meet me at Battersea Bridge, so that you can see the situation clearly for yourself?

I am happy for this to be totally private. I am equally happy for it to be covered by the press (ME!), which I think would do no harm. It would be good for people to see that you care and are on it. As a journalist for 35 years, I am a firm believer that nothing beats putting in the legwork and seeing a scene for yourself.

I do not think this exploratory visit needs to include a delegation of others (MPs, Assembly members, RBKC officers). Just you, me and an assistant. Your experts can come later, as can others. Let's keep it simple.

2. May I also suggest the One Way social distancing measures on the bridge are removed immediately. The No Entry sign on the north side is confusing for pedestrians, creates a bottleneck, and then forces people to make an unnecessary dangerous crossing. (I did flag this up as soon as it was installed last year, but did not receive a response from TFL).

I appreciate that the One Way system was put in with good intentions, but it is not an idea that works well on this particular corner of a bridge. If you action the removal, please can you let me know, as I would like to record that for the campaign followers. A simple act such as this will send a message that TFL is listening. Big tick!

Finally, is it OK for me to share your note, or at least a summary of its core message? I would like to put it on the Petition update page and Twitter. It will send a powerful message that you are listening. I see no negatives in this for you and TFL. I also want to share it privately with Jack Ryan's friends who are in close touch with me and are supporting the campaign. Your words will mean a lot to them.

If needs be, I am happy to keep the letter confidential. I want us to move forward with all this in the spirit of complete trust.

Thanks again for engaging with me on this matter.

Kind Regards

Rob

M: [REDACTED]

<IMG_9342.jpg>

On 20 Jan 2021, at 17:25, Byford Andy [REDACTED] [tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Rob,

Thank you for your email. I wanted to let you know I have received your correspondence, and have asked my teams for an urgent briefing on the proposals to improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians in the longer term, but also any immediate action that can be taken.

I have also asked my team to get in touch with you directly and arrange time to discuss these proposals in more detail following their necessary conversations with the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea.

It is indeed simply unacceptable that people continue to be killed and seriously injured on London's streets. The impact of road death and serious injury on London's communities is immense and my thoughts are with the family and friends of Jack, and the wider local community who will of course want urgent action. I would urge you to share the details of both Brake and RoadPeace in your campaign work, charities we work with closely and both of whom do exceptional work to support victims of road traffic collisions.

Thank you for your work to make London's streets safer. My team will be in contact with you as an immediate priority.

Best regards
Andy

Andy Byford
Commissioner
Palestra, 197 Blackfriars Road, London SE1 8NJ

<image001.jpg>

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 20 January 2021 10:57
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Fatal accident on Battersea Bridge - Campaign to bring safety to the bridge

Dear Mr Byford

Apologies for contacting you directly, but I urgently need to engage with you regarding my campaign to 'Make Battersea Bridge Safe to Cross'.

This was started following the tragic death of 29-year-old Jack Ryan last Wednesday - 13th January.

My petition currently has 13,000 signatures. It is clear that safety here is a major issue. In fact, it has been the subject of countless complaints locally going back at least 18 years. If you browse the comments beneath the petition you will see a vast array of anecdotes about the dangers residents experience here.

This is the petition:

https://www.change.org/p/transport-for-london-make-battersea-bridge-safe-to-cross?recruiter=161208519&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=copylink&utm_campaign=share_petition

Here is some press coverage about the tragic event of 13th Jan:

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9164377/Marketing-manager-29-knocked-killed-Range-Rover-jogging-London.html>

I am doing an interview with ITV News today and intend to continue to raise the profile of this issue in the media. It will not go away.

The responsibility for this crossing point rests solely with TFL.

From a layman's perspective, I would argue that putting in safety measures for pedestrians is easily doable - IF there is the will at TFL.

I urge you to please find this will. It is within YOUR power. You can be The Good Guy in all this, if you step in and do something urgently

Senior Cabinet members at RBKC have told me that they will support TFL action to remedy the situation. They may even contribute with funding.

TFL has stated in the past that the main issue preventing installation of a pedestrian crossing at the north end of Battersea Bridge is "traffic flow". I honestly believe that this position is now absurd and untenable.

Please can you contact me to discuss this? I would be prepared to talk in strict confidence if this will help. For clarity - I am in NO WAY affiliated to a political party, or a council, on this matter (or, in fact any matter!).

Your colleague Lili Matson sent me this statement via the Press Office last night. It accepts there is a serious problem here, but it fails to directly address a way forward on the issue.

I look forward to hearing form you.

Yours sincerely

Rob McGibbon

M: [REDACTED]

<image002.png>

Lilli Matson, TfL's Chief Safety, Health and Environment Officer,
said: "Our thoughts are with the family and friends of Jack Ryan, who was tragically killed on Battersea Bridge. We are supporting the Metropolitan Police as they continue their investigation.

"Every death on London's streets is one too many and we are committed to making London safer for everyone through our Vision Zero ambition to eliminate deaths and serious injuries on London's roads.

"The junction of Battersea Bridge and Chelsea Embankment / Cheyne Walk is complex as it is busy river crossing, a key bus corridor and has high numbers of people walking and cycling. Action is urgently needed and we are keen to work with the borough to deliver improvements that will protect the safety of all road users as soon as possible."

ROB M c G I B B O N

Email: 

Website: www.robmcgibbon.com

Twitter: @robmcgibbon

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ROB M c G I B B O N

Email: 
Website: www.robmcgibbon.com
Twitter: @robmcgibbon

Jacob Gemma

From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 26 January 2021 13:35
To: Byford Andy
Cc: Branks Kirsten; Tagg Ella (ST)
Subject: Re: Moving forward for Battersea Bridge

Hi Andy

Super. Many thanks for this update - and the impressive progress.

I had a good chat with Ian Killingbeck earlier. We are meeting on Teams on Thursday to talk things through.

regards

Rob

On 26 Jan 2021, at 12:22, Byford Andy <[REDACTED]> [tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)> wrote:

Hi Rob

A further update: my team aim to have a proposed plan by the end of this week and we will be in contact with both you and R B K to outline it and the accompanying next steps.

Regards

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 7:06:39 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]> [tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>
Cc: Branks Kirsten <[REDACTED]> [@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>; Tagg Ella (ST) <[REDACTED]> [@tfl.gov.uk](mailto:[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk)>
Subject: Re: Moving forward for Battersea Bridge

Hi Andy

Thank you very much for your swift reply. Greatly appreciated.

I also appreciate you keeping this matter high up on what must be a relentless agenda.

I completely understand the need for careful, considered progress. I look forward to hearing news of developments.

My only request is that when something is clearly not working, you act as decisively as ... Roman Abramovich! There speaks a totally gutted Lampard fan. 😞

Regards

Rob

On Mon, 25 Jan 2021 at 17:50 Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk> wrote:
Hi Rob

I have further discussed this with my team and our RBK and C stakeholder contact is going to arrange a meeting with the borough to discuss possible solutions and to agree next steps.

We understand the urgency but as I counselled on the day we met, an ill-thought through quick fix can inadvertently introduce other risks so we need to move quickly but carefully.

As soon as I have more, I will update you. In the meantime, my team is clear that I want a meeting set up between relevant experts as a priority.

Regards

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Monday, January 25, 2021 4:38:06 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Cc: Tagg Ella (ST) <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>; Branks Kirsten <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: Moving forward for Battersea Bridge

Dear Andy (Ella and Kirsten)

I spoke in some detail with Johnny Thalassites, RBKC's lead member for Planning, Place and Environment, earlier today. He is ready to work with TFL right away to help resolve the safety issues at Battersea Bridge North (BBN).

I was alarmed to hear that a joint venture between both parties for a similar pedestrian crossing at Lower Sloane Square/Royal Hospital Road is still yet to be completed - some 18 MONTHS after it was first agreed. Oh my!

I know we spoke loosely - and unofficially - about timings for the BBN project, but you intimated that something might possible within two months. I clearly understand the complexity of what needs to be done - and it must be done correctly - but please can you re-assure me that we can move swiftly?

AN INTERIM MEASURE IDEA:

I mentioned before that the situation at BBN could be rapidly improved by adjusting the sequencing of the lights. One of the key safety problems is that the lights interchange immediately - allowing cars travelling West on Cheyne Walk to turn onto BB just as people are crossing.

If cars are held for just, say, six seconds longer on Cheyne Walk it would greatly reduce the risk of someone being hit. Please can your team at least model/test this idea? This could be trialled at negligible cost whilst everyone looks at the detail of a longterm solution.

I attach a video.

I would be delighted if we can agree some kind of timeline for a first meeting between officers for TFL and RBKC. I am happy to be a conduit for any talks. I remain wholly impartial and unattached to any organisation.

The petition has now past 20,000 signatures and the Comments section on it clearly reveals the extent to which local people are concerned about safety at this junction.

Kind regards

Rob

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Jacob Gemma

From: Byford Andy
Sent: 19 February 2021 21:11
To: Rob McGibbon
Subject: Re: TfL confirms Battersea Bridge safety changes after jogger Jack Ryan's death | Evening Standard

Cheers Rob. Kudos to you on the campaign

RIP Jack

Andy

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From: Rob McGibbon <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Friday, February 19, 2021 9:06:46 PM
To: Byford Andy <[REDACTED]@tfl.gov.uk>
Subject: TfL confirms Battersea Bridge safety changes after jogger Jack Ryan's death | Evening Standard

From your in-house PR!

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/battersea-bridge-safety-changes-jack-ryan-death-tfl-b920550.html>

TfL confirms Battersea Bridge safety changes after campaign following death of jogger Jack Ryan

On Friday Transport for London set out a plan it said would “reduce road danger in the area”.

[Rachael Burford](#) 2 hours ago

A

new pedestrian crossing will be installed at an accident hot spot on [Battersea Bridge](#) following outcry over the death of a jogger earlier this year.

More than [25,000 people signed a petition to improve safety](#) for those trying to cross at the north side of the bridge after marketing manager Jack Ryan was killed in January.

The 29-year-old, from [Fulham](#), [is thought to have been jogging when he was struck by a Range Rover](#).

On Friday Transport for London set out a plan it said would “reduce road danger in the area”.

It includes a new signalised pedestrian crossing on the north side of the bridge, and a reduction in the speed limit on Chelsea Embankment later this year from 30mph to 20mph.

Writer Rob McGibbon, 55, a Chelsea resident living near Battersea Bridge set up the petition following Mr Ryan’s death.

He said: “I am delighted that [TfL](#) has finally decided to make Battersea Bridge safe by installing a pedestrian crossing.

“Safety has been a major worry here for countless years. Residents, successive MPs and local politicians have failed to get any action out of TfL in all that time, but this determination to bring change has come about in less than five weeks.



Mr Ryan, 29, died on the road after being struck by a Range Rover
/ handout

“This has only happened because of people power.

“I would like to thank everyone who signed the petition and has supported the campaign. Huge credit must also go to TfL commissioner Andy Byford for responding so well at the very outset.

“When he saw for himself the problems pedestrians face at the bridge, he immediately promised to make things better.

“Whilst the new crossing is good news, it is deeply saddening and wrong that it took Jack Ryan’s tragic death to galvanise action. I did not know him, but it is clear that Jack was a hugely popular man, who was dearly loved by his family and so many friends.”

TfL and Kensington and Chelsea council also plan to install a two further crossings on busy Cheyne Walk and Beaufort Street. These plans could also include a banned left turn into Beaufort Street.

Head of healthy streets delivery at TfL Penny Rees said: “Any death or serious injury on London’s streets is one too many and we are absolutely committed to making the capital’s roads safer for everyone.

“Following the tragic death of a man on the bridge earlier this year, we’ve worked closely with Kensington and Chelsea to bring forward our proposals to reduce danger at this busy junction as quickly as possible, and believe our proposed changes will make a real difference to pedestrian safety.”