

Manifesto – Izzy Romilly

LCC Board of Trustees Election 2022

I'm Izzy, I'm 27, and I live in Lambeth (in a first-floor flat on an A-road, which is a daily reminder of how far we have to go). I've been cycling around south London since I was about 5, and I'm just about to move to Hackney - so I know London, and what it's like cycling here, pretty well. If elected as an LCC trustee, I'll bring passion for accessibility, inclusion, and climate justice, as well as experience working with the public sector and community organising.



As a young woman, cycling has brought me a lot of joy and freedom (and saved me a ton of money). It's also brought its fair share of anxiety, harassment, and day-today faff. Cycling in London is a double-edged sword, capable of being life-changing but too often wrecked or discouraged by near misses and inadequate and inaccessible infrastructure. I joined the London Cycling Campaign in 2020, realising how passionate I was about access and safety on London's roads, and experiencing first-hand an increase in aggression during the pandemic. Since then, I've attended protests, taken direct action, learnt about the debates and dynamics around cycling, and have become a passionate believer in a liveable future for London. As a result, I'll bring empathy and solidarity with those demanding change, as well as those who could never see themselves cycling here.

My background is in sustainability and I've been actively involved in climate justice groups, including Green New Deal Rising and XR, over the last couple of years. Transforming our transport network, and making it more affordable, will be a crucial part of tackling the climate emergency in a way that improves quality of life and enhances equality, e.g. through reduced exposure to air pollution. I see walking, wheeling, and public transport as equally important issues alongside cycling.

I bring experience in applied behavioural science, including with research into the barriers to cycling for women and families with young children - so I know that creating an enabling environment is about much more than cycle lanes (though that's a good place to start). Barriers range from unsafe roads to upfront costs, lack of confidence, clothing, interactions with other road users and everyday issues like storage and having to carry bikes up and down stairs (the years-long waiting list for bike hangars particularly annoys me). I now work at a charity that specialises in supporting the public sector to implement systems change, so I'll bring experience of thinking strategically about impact with available resources.

Having lived in Tooting during the pandemic, I know how divisive cycling infrastructure and traffic calming measures can be for communities, and I'm keen to see more constructive and empathetic conversations about these issues. I know there are a wide range of attitudes towards cycling in London, and I'm keen to engage beyond the in-crowd.

Thanks for your time,

Izzy Romilly

LCC members nominating this candidate: Tim Lennon (Proposer) and Mark Tiernan (Seconder)