

# PRESS RELEASE



Dynamo (Lancaster & District Cycle Campaign) is urging Lancashire County Council to incorporate a "park and cycle" facility into the new park and ride site at the remodelled Junction 34 of the M6. According to the County Council's website<sup>1</sup>, there will be at least 600 car parking spaces at this new site, with a dedicated bus service into Lancaster city centre for motorists. Dynamo's position is that this site should also include "park and cycle", where motorists park their cars and then get on their bicycles instead of the bus.

Paul Stubbins of Dynamo raised this with the County Council in November 2014 after looking at similar schemes elsewhere. Paul explained, "I identified the practical considerations to the council, which included a direct link from the car park to the cycle path, suitable secure lockers and an increase in the number of cycle spaces in the city centre. As well as being good for fitness, it would also save the time and cost of car parking in town."

Dynamo understands that the County Council intends to include it in the forthcoming Transport Masterplan for North Lancashire, but Patricia Clarke from Dynamo said, "This should be built now as an integral part of the link road scheme, not as a bolt-on extra which might or might not happen. Adding it at some future date will cost more and we will probably end up with something second-rate. I'm sure plenty of people would prefer to get a bit of exercise and cycle the couple of miles into Lancaster rather than sit in a bus crawling along Caton Road, particularly in fine weather."

Dynamo's vision is based on similar schemes in Cambridge, where popular park and ride sites on the outskirts include cycle lockers<sup>2</sup>. Motorists either bring folding bicycles in their cars, or use cycle lockers to store their bikes securely.

The park and ride site is beside the M6 junction on the south side of Caton Road. There is an existing shared-use path from the site to the toucan crossing opposite the Holiday Inn, so this part of the infrastructure is already in place. The 2009 plans for the M6 link

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<sup>1</sup> <http://heyshamlinc.lancashire.gov.uk/the-route.aspx>

<sup>2</sup> e.g. <http://www.cyclestreets.net/location/8974/> and <http://www.cyclestreets.net/location/13086>

road included a high-quality park and cycle facility on Caton Road<sup>3</sup>, but the planning permission later lapsed. The M6 link road was subsequently granted permission under a Development Consent Order in March 2013, which ignored park and cycle completely.

### Photographs

- The park and ride site on the south side of Caton Road (attached Dynamo photograph)
- Below is a plan of the M6 junction on Caton Road (from the developer's website)



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<sup>3</sup> Lancaster City Council planning website – reference 09/00654/CCC, received 8 July 2009 – see <http://planning.lancaster.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=summary&keyVal=KMGESGIZ03C00>