

Are we moving fast enough?



We love speed for its own sake



Car ads promise us the freedom of the road



Who's the fastest now?



Just because we can do it...



...does not mean it's fun or sensible!



Brilliant engineering: fast route Gateshead-Newcastle



Can the bus ever be cool?



Taking the car to the gym



Cycling home after the match



Fossil fuel addiction



**University of Manchester
Contemporary Issues in Planning &
Environment Research**

**Designing sustainable
travel options into the
planning process**

Richard Armitage

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Manchester University (21 February 2008)





About RATC

- ◆ Sustainable travel
- ◆ Accessible transport
- ◆ Project delivery
- ◆ Small outfit
- ◆ With associates = 150+
- ◆ Working with planners...

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Introduction

- ◆ Groningen: planning for real
- ◆ Follow the evidence:
 - ❖ Smarter Choices
 - ❖ Embedding sustainable travel options in the planning process
 - ❖ Recent developments

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The art of the possible: Groningen chose cycling heaven



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Manchester currently prefers cycle hell...



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City of Groningen: cycle city

- ◆ Pro-cycling actions since 1970s
 - ❖ Key city in north Netherlands
 - ❖ Residents: 180,000+ and rising
 - ❖ Large student population
 - ❖ Regional economic powerhouse
 - ❖ Cycling investment has had no adverse economic impact

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- ◆ 3 in 5 journeys by bike within 3km radius of city centre
- ◆ 2002 data: 37% of all trips

Table 1. Bicycle use in ten European 'cycling cities' (with bicycle shares running down)

	inhabitants	bicycle share in all trips of the inhabitants
Groningen	177,000	37%
Zwolle	110,000	37%
Veenendaal	61,000	32%
Enschede	152,000	31%
Münster	280,000	27%
Amsterdam	735,000	27%
Odense	185,000	25%
Freiburg (im Breisgau)	213,000	22%
Kopenhagen	502,000	23%
Gent	231,000	15%

Supermarket bike park



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Afternoon school run



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How much road for pedestrians and cyclists?



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Bike + pedestrians can mix



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Cars not allowed through the city centre



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It will be multi-storey bike parks next



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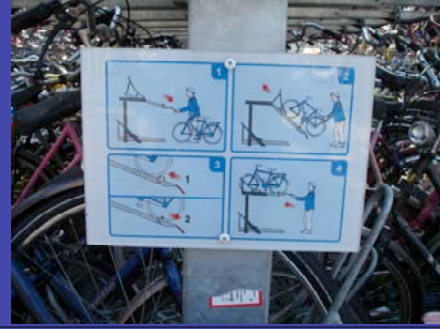
10,000+ bikes at the rail and bus interchange



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Putting your bike on level 2 is easy



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Finding it later is harder



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Cycling traffic management



2008)



3,000 bikes in lock-up, beneath the rail station



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Cycle route signs



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Public realm transformed - cycle investment continues



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More new bike parking



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It's part of the culture



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Quick chat, then off home

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Cycle heaven: divine intervention not required!

◆ In Groningen:

- ❖ 1969-1972
 - all political hues accept new traffic policy
 - city centre - no through route for cars
- ❖ 1976 Verkeerscirculatieplan- 42% of budget spent on cycling facilities
- ❖ 1989-2000 c.£15m (would have been £210m in Greater Manchester)
- ❖ 2006 €5.5m (GM equivalent: £52m)

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Why so little progress on cycling in the UK...

◆ Poor leadership

- ❖ GM's LTP2 draft - decline in walking!

◆ Scraps from the funding table

- ❖ But the M6 widening gets approval

◆ Greater Manchester TIF bid

- ❖ Total value around £2.5 billion
- ❖ Of that, Metrolink £1 billion
- ❖ How much for cycling infrastructure?

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GM TIF Bid

◆ Cycling infrastructure gets:

**£23
million**

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Why so little progress on cycling in the UK...

- ◆ **Cycling engineers & promoters**
 - ❖ Low salaries, lowly status, no support
- ◆ **Media bias**
 - ❖ Journalists wedded to their cars
- ◆ **Planners**
 - ❖ Failing to build cycling into the plans
 - ❖ 2007: Highways Agency M1 Junction remodelling - no cycle route

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The missing ingredients

- ◆ **Ambition, imagination, vision**
- ◆ **Strategic plan (is this the TIF?)**
 - ❖ Large scale investment
 - ❖ Programme lasting 20+ years
- ◆ **Marketing (at 'car' levels)**
- ◆ **Multi-agency joint action plans**
- ◆ **Sense of urgency**

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Follow the evidence

- ◆ **Smarter Choices:**
 - ❖ 10 - 20% modal shift practical now
 - ❖ www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/sustainable/
- ◆ **Embedding sustainable travel options in the planning process**
 - ❖ Supplementary Planning Documents
 - ❖ Cheshire County Council

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Follow the evidence

- ◆ **NICE PH008**
- ◆ **PH008 Physical activity and environment: Guidance**
- ◆ **nice.org.uk**

 **National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence**

Issue Date: January 2006
Promoting and creating built or natural environments that encourage and support physical activity

NICE public health guidance 8

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Visit: www.fietsberaad.nl, go to Rapporten, and download:

Continous and integral: The cycling policies of Groningen and other European cycling cities
Fietsberaad-publication no. 7, April 2006



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Manchester Utd. after the match 21 February 2013?



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