

Don't be seduced



PRESS RELEASE FROM THE EXETER CYCLING CAMPAIGN

New Housing Developments still designing in car dependency



Press release from the Exeter Cycling Campaign

[BBC news reported this morning](#) on Transport for New Homes' (TfNH) report today ("[Building car dependency](#)") highlighting the continued practice of Developers of creating new housing that builds in car dependency.

TfNH report that *"Despite plans for vibrant communities with local shops, leisure facilities and community services, the visions of developers have not materialised"* and that *"estates [described] as 'walkable vibrant communities' were dominated by parking, driveways and roads"*.

Sadly this is still what we are seeing in parts of Devon.

"Every month we see planning applications that are dominated by roads and parking but have given little thought to how people might walk or cycle. It's not uncommon to see new housing developments proposed with no pavements for people to walk on. The presumption that the car is the only way to get about predominates", says Mike Walton of the Exeter Cycling Campaign who have a team of volunteers that review new planning applications in and around Exeter.

This isn't the future we want to see. The Exeter Cycling Campaign has a vision for new homes to be within a 15 minute safe walk or cycle from essential services like the doctors, schools and shops. This is what helps create a vibrant community. Few of us want to be dependent on a car to do simple things like pop to the shops or the post office. If we're to decarbonise our transport quickly we need to be making it more convenient to walk, metro/bus and cycle.

Exeter City Council are doing the right thing in the city. Through their [Liveable Exeter](#) initiative they are using brownfield sites with plans for these new developments to be less car-based and accessible by foot and bike. Sadly though too many new housing developments around Exeter are being agreed with car-dependency built in and no thought for people walking or cycling.

This undermines the Secretary of State for Transport's declared goal that *"Public transport and active travel (walking and cycling) will be the natural first choice for daily activities"*.

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Exeter Cycling Campaign

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About the Exeter Cycling Campaign

We want to see cycling being a normal, everyday choice for people of every age and ability on safe, direct, connected and convenient paths. This is something that every citizen of Exeter will benefit from.

Cycling delivers a clean, space-efficient way of moving people across the city. It is a significant contribution to tackling the city's key challenges of climate change, pollution, congestion and unhealthy lifestyles.

Read more about the Exeter Cycling Campaign [here](#).

We also invite you to learn about *Wheels for Wellbeing* - enhancing disabled people's lives by ensuring that anyone can access the physical, emotional, practical and social benefits of cycling.

<https://wheelsforwellbeing.org.uk/>

Website: <http://www.exetercyclingcampaign.org.uk/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ExeterCyclingCampaign/>

Twitter: [@ExeterCycling](https://twitter.com/ExeterCycling)

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