



## Improvement suggestions for Newcastle City Council's cycle forum

We are well placed to make suggestions:

- Our secretary and chair have contributed to the forum for many years, as have individual campaign members
- We sought feedback from forum contributors
- We have kick started improvements over the past months: originating from an external force: a petition signed by 800 local people (chair = petition organiser)
- We have been closely involved in the writing of the forum's terms of reference
- We have contributed to various consultations and working groups
- We also have reviewed all available minutes (9 years worth)

We believe more effort could be put into two aspects. This way we would get a two-way process, with a positive mutual learning effect, that's effective and satisfying to all.

More **effective use of everyone's time**: the council must make better use of their *website* and embrace *online systems* (mapping, online discussion forum, working with others) in order to fully engage with the cycling community. Time between the main forum meetings (quarterly currently) must be used.

More **transparent ways-of working** could be developed: more focus must be on adherence to structure (schematic below) and details mandated in the *Terms of Reference*. At a minimum:

- Actions must be closed down to avoid a talking-shop mentality
- It must be clearer how people's comments are taken into account
- Officers decision and justification must be reported back to the forum

**The Newcastle Cycling Campaign will forward a list of outstanding actions, and would like to ask the council to reply how these will be addressed, and when.**

## The structure

