

Cyclist and pedestrian interactions on shared-use paths

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Interactions between cyclists and pedestrians on shared-use paths



Shared-use path:
“...designed to accommodate the movement of pedestrians and cyclists...they may be segregated or unsegregated”
(DfT, 2012)

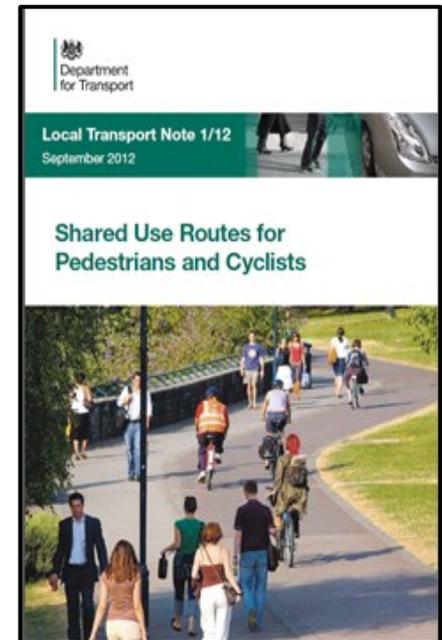
Outline

- Introduction
- Mobilities literature
- Survey results
- Qualitative comments
- Phase II
- Conclusion



Introduction

- Government shared-use path design guidelines - conflict is rare on shared-use paths
- Few Regulations on shared use paths
- *“No collisions and no conflict of any significance were observed...the vast majority of cases of interaction...were relatively inconsequential” (Atkins,2012)*
- Mobilities literature; non-visible experiential interactions also important to consider





**Mobilities
literature**



**Fluidity of
movement**

**Rhythms of
movement
(& interruptions)**

**Communication in
motion**

Communication in motion

- Impact on journey experience through different forms of communication
- Resulting in different reactions to and interpretations of other path users
- The development of ‘working assumptions’ or stereotypes (Christmas *et al.*, 2010)



Phase I of Data Collection

600 intercept surveys with path users:

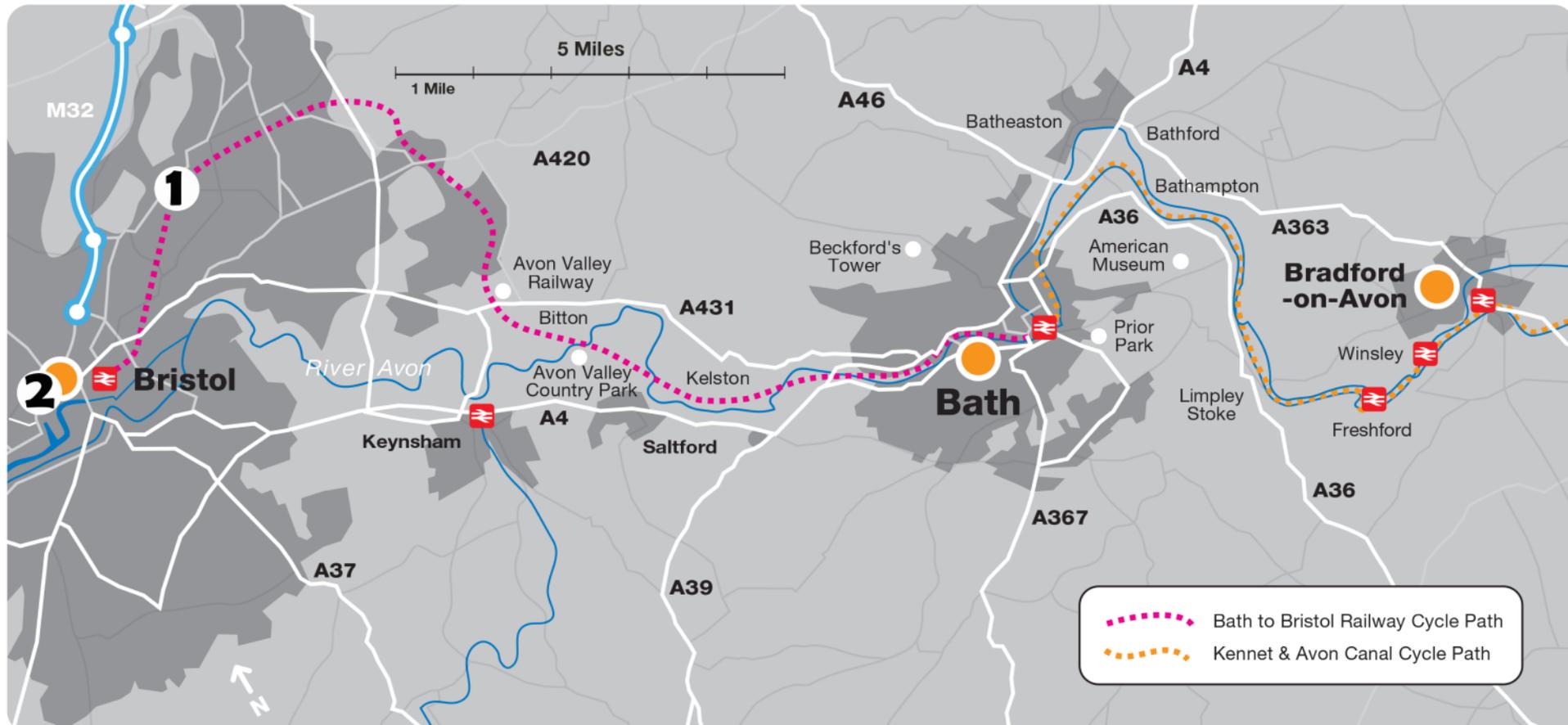


(1) Bristol and Bath Railway Path (shared)



(2) Castle Park (segregated)

Bristol and Bath Railway Path

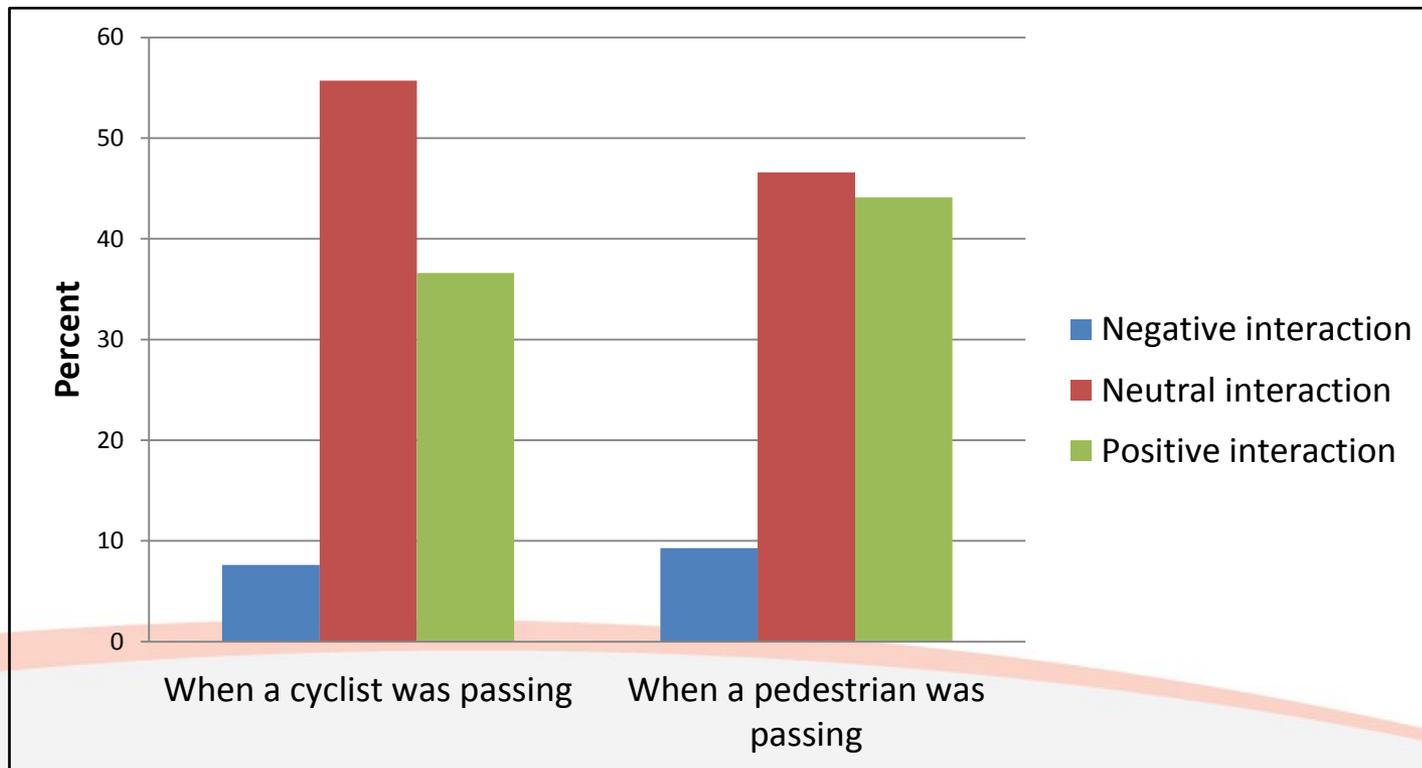


- (1) Data collection site on the shared path
- (2) Data collection site on the segregated path

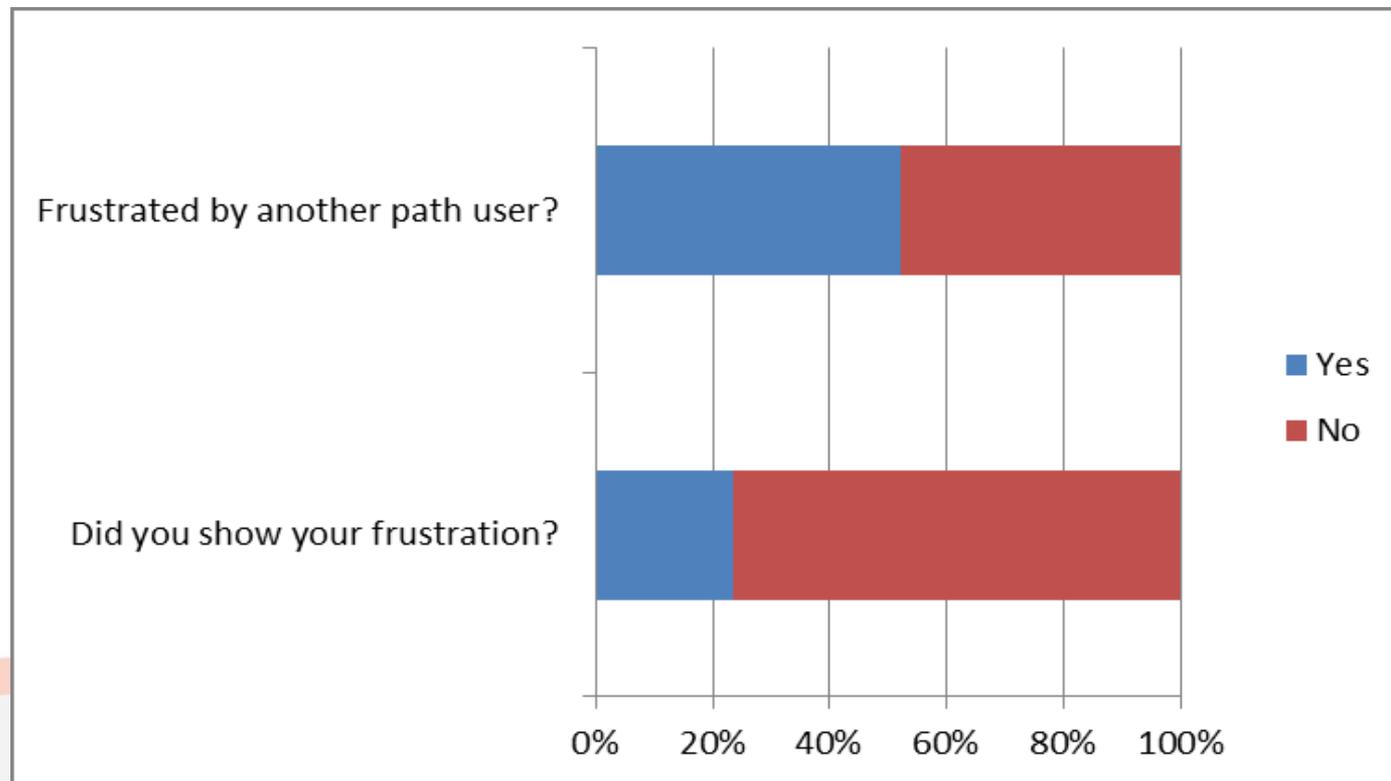
- Around 5,000 trips per day
- The majority of the route is a 3m wide shared use surface
- Nearby to schools, residential, shopping and recreational areas
- Wide variety of uses and users

“...what seems like ordinary urban movement patterns are more than this” (Jensen, 2010)

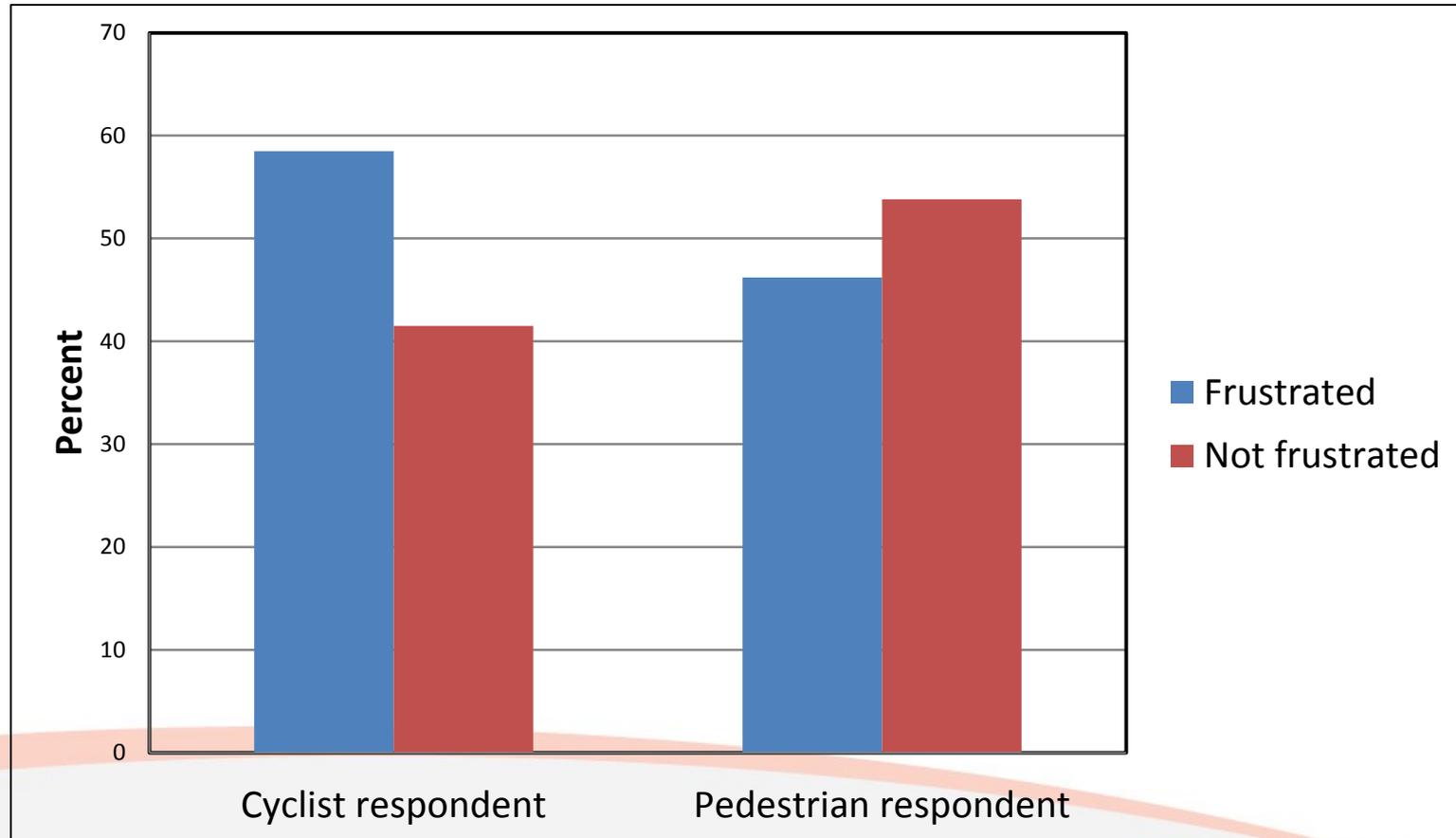
Positive, negative and neutral interactions reported



Have you been frustrated by the actions of another path user on the path today? If so, did you show your frustration?



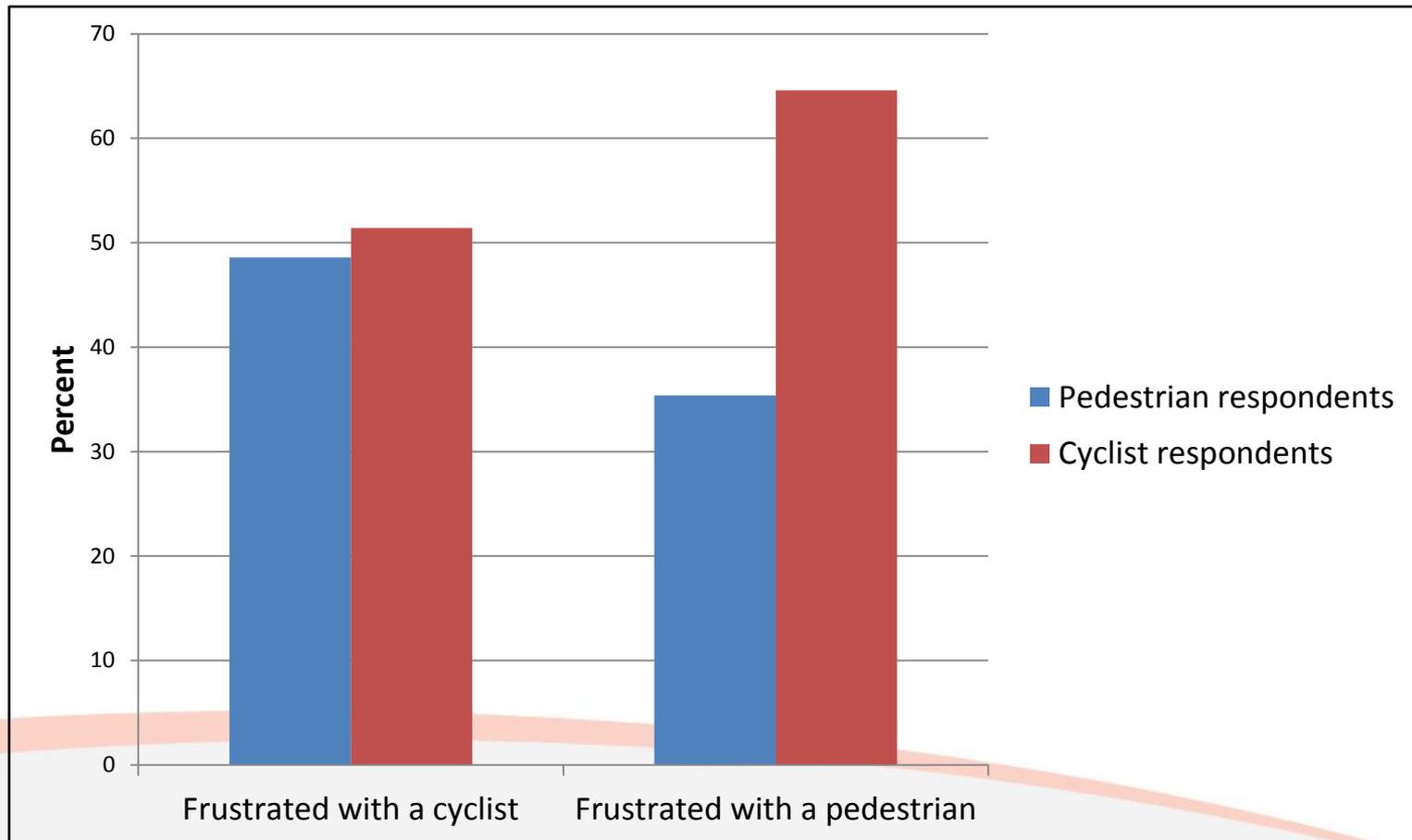
Have you been frustrated by the actions of another path user on the path today?



- Cyclists who use the path regularly were more likely to be frustrated by the actions of another path user
- Experienced cyclists were more likely to be frustrated by the actions of another path user



Recognition of being frustrated by the actions of another path user by mode



Qualitative Comments

'Consideration by cyclist Lycra louts is needed' (cyclist)

'Some cyclists go hell for leather in Lycra' (pedestrian)

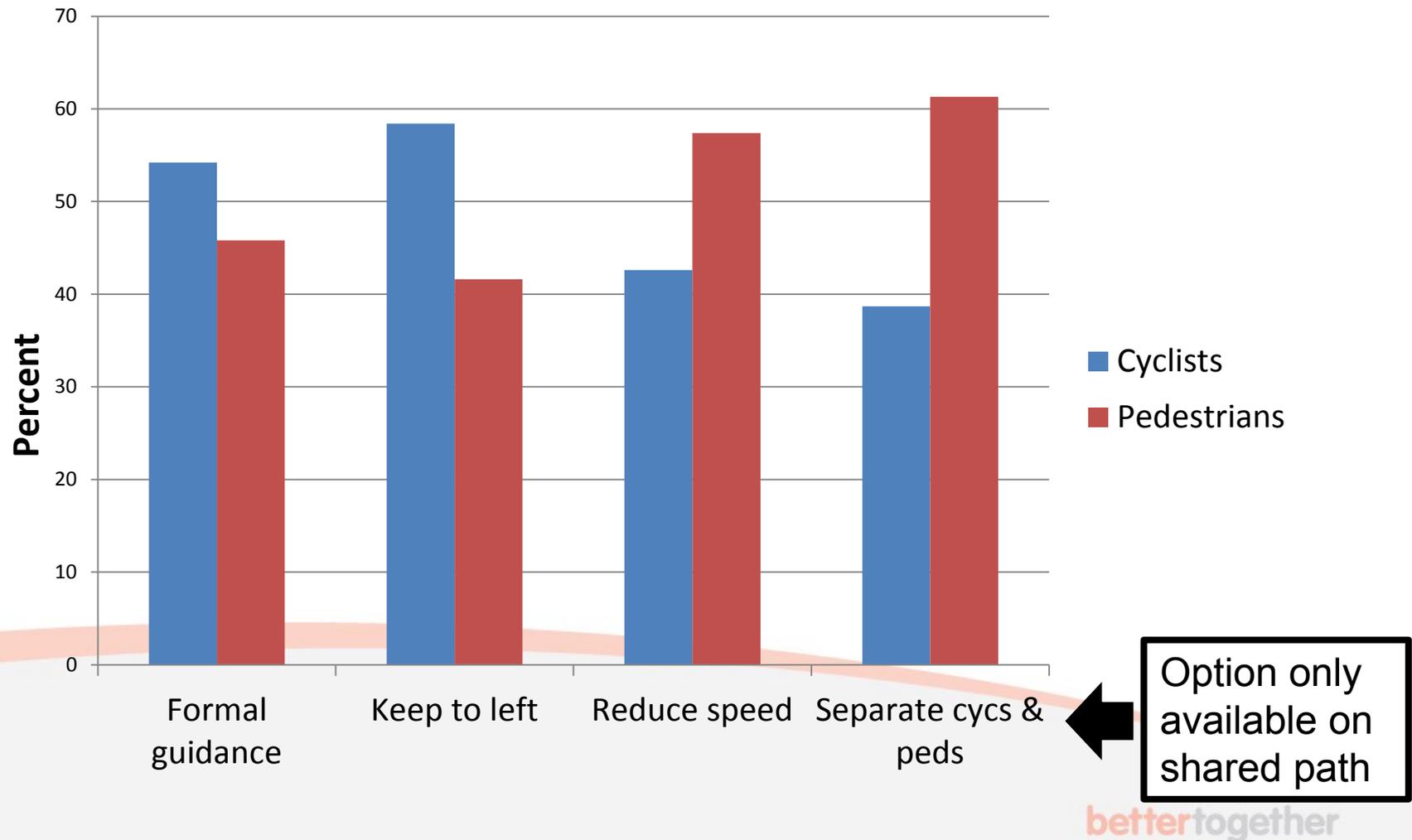
'Some cyclists go too fast, the Lycra types usually' (pedestrian)

'Pedestrians need to be more aware and not move sideways suddenly' (cyclist)

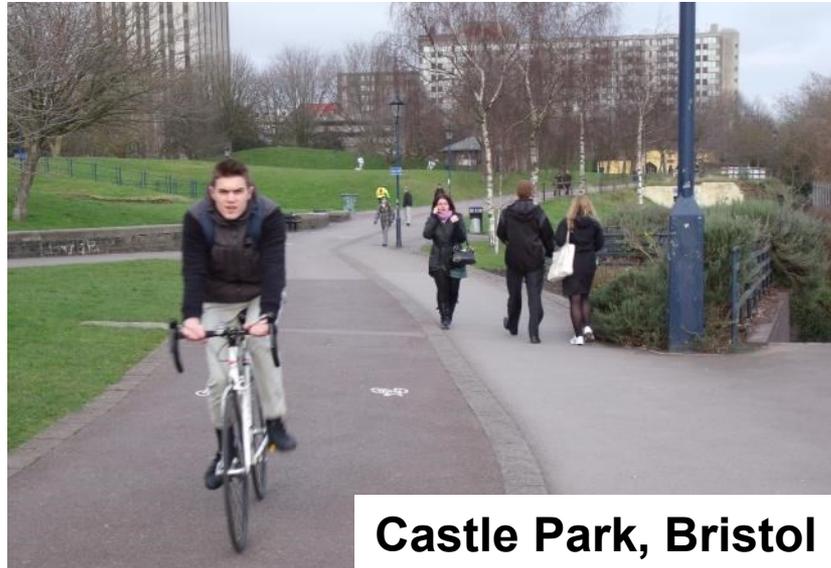
'Pedestrians are often not aware of cyclists, but I don't feel this is deliberate' (cyclist)

'I find pedestrians are quite often oblivious - I use my bell to warn people but signs would be helpful' (cyclist)

What would make sharing this path more enjoyable?



Different forms of separation



Castle Park, Bristol



Münster Inner Ring



Frome Greenway, Bristol

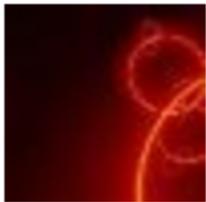
Phase II

Video recordings and in-depth interviews

- “...a chance to revisit, re-live, and elaborate on these often taken for granted time spaces”
(Brown & Spinney, 2010)
- Personal video recordings of walking and cycling journeys
- Used in combination with in-depth interviews



Press Release and Reaction to it



NoCorruption | August 30 2014, 5:52AM

The problems on this railway path have been identified as anti-social cyclists. **The solution is to ban cyclists from the path.** To help enforce this 'speed humps' should be installed.

Conclusion

- Important to examine both visible *and* non-visible interactions
- Non-visible interactions are not necessarily ‘inconsequential’
- UK shared-use path design guidelines do not appear to acknowledge the mobile experience as the multi-dimensional process that it is
- The design guidelines can be improved and complemented by incorporating a mobilities perspective
- Sharing versus separation – under what circumstances?
- Challenges of objective research in a climate of hostile debate



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