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Request and Response:

TfL and LBHF have just announced plans to create a cycleway in both directions along the A315 Hammersmith Rd. As you will be aware this is the main arterial road between Kensington and Hammersmith and it is a regular access route for your vehicles from both Hammersmith and Kensington LFB stations.

According to your statistics there were over 2000 call outs to the borough in 2017, but with a number of new office buildings and an anticipated 20,000 visitors a day to the revitalised Olympia exhibition centre this is likely to increase.

Councillors and residents are concerned that the planned cycleway which will segregate road users will reduce the width of Hammersmith Rd to a single carriageway in each direction. This could restrict the ability of emergency vehicles to negotiate heavy traffic and may delay their arrival at an incident.

Can you please confirm that you have conducted an impact assessment of the potential effect of reducing the road width here and can you share this information? If you haven't conducted an assessment, can you express an opinion on the advisability or not of restricting an arterial route.

I am now in a position to respond to your original e-mail regarding the planned cycleway along A315 Hammersmith Road.

As consultation on these projects are normally dealt with at Borough level I have had the opportunity to consult with both the local station and Borough Manager's for the area (Hammersmith) and whilst normally not involved in cycle highways projects, I have also conducted further checks with our transport team in order to see if they hold information in relation to this project. As a result of these checks, it has been confirmed to me that we have no records of any impact assessment for this project. I have further been informed that it would not normally be the responsibility of the London Fire Brigade (LFB) to carry out an impact assessment for this type of proposal and the responsibility would be of those carrying out the work (TFL / LBHF) to demonstrate that it wouldn't impact on the LFB. We would then look to attend any necessary meetings to discuss their findings.

I am sorry I could not be of more help on this occasion and apologise again for the slight delay in responding to your e-mail. Should you have any further questions please do let me know.