

Good news and bad news for Motorcyclists Motorcycles in Bus Lanes.

By Steve Farrell MCN Politics & the law 04 February 2008

Here's the report Transport for London is hiding on motorcycles in bus lanes. The report, dated September, concludes **collisions fell by 42% on routes in London where motorcycles have been allowed to use bus lanes**. TfL has been accused of suppressing the findings due to fears **votes will be lost by opening more bus lanes to bikes.**

A TfL road safety officer admitted the report was due to be presented at the London Motorcycle Show last week. Marilyn Cranfield, who was representing TfL on a stand at the show, told MCN: "All I know is it's still with the mayor's office."

But a TfL spokeswoman claimed it had yet to be submitted to the mayor. She said: "There are serious issues of safety and efficiency involved in this issue, which required proper consideration based upon the collection and analysis of the relevant evidence. "Our officers had concerns about the validity of some of the early results of the study, which were shared by Greater London Authority officials. Further work has been carried out and when our senior officers are satisfied that their concerns have been met the report will be submitted to the mayor."

TfL has refused to answer all further questions on the issue. The spokeswoman said: "You have our statement. We have nothing further to add at this stage." The authority has also refused to provide the report to the British Motorcyclists Federation under the Freedom of Information Act.

Motorcyclists cleared to use Plymouth bus lanes

MCN By Liam Marsden Politics & the law 14 December 2007

Motorcyclists will be given the right to use bus lanes in Plymouth, on an **18 month trial**. The trial was given the go ahead after the city council and police agreed it would reduce motorcycle accidents caused by filtering, and it would increase the visibility of motorcyclists to other road users. **13 bikers have been killed already this year on roads in Plymouth**, and the council hopes the trial will reduce the amount of collisions and reduce congestion.

DVLA is consistently losing motorcycle licences,

- DVLA have 7.8 million people's details wrong
- DVLA's secret talks on electronic tagging

Riders send their licences to DVLA to renew them or update their addresses and get them back with **motorcycle entitlement missing**. Many don't notice straight away and continue riding, according to the Motorcycle Action Group (MAG). When they contact DVLA to complain some are told there is no record of their ever having a bike licence, MAG said. They then face re-sitting their test from scratch.

The best precaution would be to take a copy of the licence prior to sending it off to the DVLA, a copy of an insurance policy schedule showing cover for a motorcycle also obviously infers that the person riding is entitled.