

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [silvertowntunnel](#)  
**Subject:** User Charging for motorcycles, mopeds and scooters  
**Date:** 29 March 2017 20:31:46

---

Dear Sir,

I am writing to you with regard to the meeting I've just attended at the Intercontinental hotel about the proposed Silvertown Tunnel.

Firstly I would like to thank you for letting me speak on the matter of user charging for motorcycles in all its forms.

I would like to reiterate my point of view.

MAG members are concerned about the impact of the cost on their commute.

Depending on the charging point and time, this could triple or even quadruple the weekly cost of commuting on a motorbike for the journeys which riders undertake to and from work. This journey is not a luxury but a necessity on a motorcycle due to the economic situation which a lot of people find themselves having to deal with in London. So charging riders any amount just doesn't seem fair as a very large proportion of them made an economic calculation and choose two wheels because they couldn't afford to do their jobs plus an expensive commute.

If, as TFL would like, they transfer their commute to public transport they will find that it is not a cheaper option, and almost always more expensive than a motorcycle or scooter. The other thing that will change is the time to do the commute, often quadrupling the time from door to door. This journey also happens outside the main transport times for lots of low paid workers. Then the tube is not running, which would make people have to travel on several types of transport just to get to work on time. This has the knock-on effect of the time they have with their family.

From a motorcyclist's point of view, there is no benefit of the crossing if there's a charge because bikers will just travel around the crossings which do charge them. The biking community is very sensitive to pricing because most of us have to be. If you're going to charge on the two tunnels near Greenwich and Newham, this is going to cause a lot of problems because then bikers will be forced to endure either much longer journeys or the big increase in cost even though they're making no congestion impact and even reducing congestion because bikes are

able to filter and keep moving. The original documents said the charges would be to manage congestion and traffic flow but bikes are making no impact at all on traffic jams except to reduce them, which even the research done by TfL proves.

The original documents which talked about charging also noted that the Dartford Crossing doesn't charge bikes. Bikes tend to be free at major crossings and there isn't a single Thames crossing in London which charges. I don't see why anything has changed to justify a change in policy and nor do the many people I know who ride to and from work every day.

I would ask these charges for motorcycles to be dropped as the revenue that TfL will get is small but the impact on the London riding community is very big and for no clear benefit to anyone.

With thanks

Tim Fawthrop

Regional Rep greater London Motorcycle Action Group



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

---

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.  
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

---