

Minutes of a meeting of the WNBR London Collective - Debrief

Tuesday, 16th June 2026
by Zoom Videoconference

Present: Andrew M, Cy, Dave S, Dave W, Giulio, Harvey, Ian, Joe, Natasha, Neill, Noodw, Richard D, Rob J

Apologies: Andrew E, Dan, Mike, Norm, Willoh

(Action items in *red*)

Debrief

Feedback has been received via the Marshals and Collective WhatsApp groups, along with some messages and emails from marshals and the public. These will be made available to the participants in the 2027 planning process. It is not for the 2026 organisers to make decisions about the 2027 ride.

During this meeting, many specific observations and recommendations were made. A detailed list will also be available to the 2027 planners.

Given the candour, uncertainties, contradictions and potential disagreements in some of the observations, it was not intended to put a full list of comments into the public domain.

Summary of observations

Planning, testing and police liaison were all thorough and positive.

Mr Bola Shofoluwe, Front of House Manager at County Hall Apartments, wrote to us two days before the ride to say that the landowners of Forum Magnum Square were prohibiting WNBR London from entering the square. The people and businesses of Forum Magnum Square have previously welcomed us. We had already agreed our routes with the police. We tested all the routes the previous week. The day before, we had briefed the marshals, stewards and first aiders. We had fully documented all aspects of the ride for circulation. We had publicised our plans through mainstream media as well as through the untraceable, viral routes of social media reposting. The impact on disabled riders was severe, as this was their meeting point. Shofoluwe's actions were irresponsible and caused significant harm.

Most people found the switch to a Sunday was good. It led to fewer problems with congestion, other road users, other protests, and spectators. Some supporters found that it was harder to get into Central London by public transport. The 2026 ride had around 200 fewer participants than 2025. Some of the drop may be due to the switch.

Most marshals applauded the improvements in managing the flow of the ride. We introduced additional, experienced marshals and revised briefing on traffic management. Next year we should build on this with further improvements.

We had no reports of police interventions, incidents or injuries. There were a few reports of bad behaviour by other road users.

Some specific locations remain problematic and require more action by marshals, stewards and the security team, eg exiting and returning to WA, and vehicular access at the toilet break.

We experienced the usual challenge of a small number of riders not following our directions, or not responding to marshals' instructions. Rear marshals must not desert their post or take risks to deal with people who refuse to stay with the group.

The switch to Glympse for location tracking worked well.

The expanded communications hub was better able to monitor and manage the ride.

Date for the 2027 Ride

Given the positive feedback about riding on a Sunday, the collective agreed that our planning assumption should be to ride on Sunday 13th June 2027. This is subject to consideration and confirmation during the planning meetings in 2027.

Next Meeting

The collective agreed that the first planning meeting for 2027 will be on Tuesday 12th January, 2027.