



Weekly Road Ride Safety Review Process

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Each week, the **Road Captain** is responsible for assessing the forthcoming weekend¹ road rides, particularly in terms of **weather** and **road works** or any other risks that may need **changes** to, or **cancellation** of, the published rides.

Risk Triggers

Consider Re-route ²	Consider Cancellation ³	Cancel Ride
Flood warnings Road works	Met Office Yellow Weather Warning Weather on the day includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature below 3 degrees • wind gusts over 30 mph • snow 	Met Office Amber or Red Weather Warning Forecast or weather on the day includes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • below 0 degrees • wind gusts over 40 mph

Weekly Process

- **Monday/Tuesday** – review the forthcoming rides, forecasts and any other sources for possible risks. If changes are possible, kick off discussions with others.
- **Thursday/Friday** (possibly sooner) review decisions & cancel or re-route if required
- Any decisions need to consider both Saturday and Sunday rides
- **Saturday/Sunday morning “not as forecast”** – review conditions before riding & cancel if necessary

Who should be involved?

When risks are triggered, the **MTB Captain** should be engaged early to make an equivalent decision for MTB rides. **Sunday Ride Leaders** should also be engaged early where possible. The **Road Captain** will probably want to seek input from any other sources they see fit from whatever information sources (forecasts, flood warnings, road works, local knowledge and experience of other riders^{4,5}).

The **Road Captain** should arrange for a deputy if not available.

The Ride leaders Facebook group⁶ might also be considered as a good source of expert input, and for an early heads-up of possible changes.

Review on the morning

If conditions have deteriorated overnight on Friday and there is concern expressed that rides may not be safe, then the Road Captain (or any committee member in their absence) should review in consultation with the ride leaders.

¹ Weekday rides are not covered by this procedure – these are small enough to be managed by the relevant ride leaders.

² Re-routing is considered viable for flooding and road works, but not, in general, for bad weather, which is usually late in the week, and late route or café changes are not desirable. An option being considered is if we have multiple routes to a destination, we might swap in one in preference to another if it mitigates the risk.

³ For the reasons stated above, Cancellation is considered the preferred option for bad weather.

⁴ e.g. I use CTC members, the **Route Meister** and **Chairman** as excellent sounding boards

⁵ e.g. Rich Free is currently an excellent source of knowledge for flood conditions around the Severn

⁶ Doesn't exist at time of writing – working on it

Recording decisions

If any of the risk triggers occur, decisions should be recorded in the “Comments” column on the **Ride Spreadsheet** *whether or not the ride is to be cancelled or re-routed*.

Communication channels

Re-routes can be announced via the **Ride Spreadsheet** and club **FB group** ⁷

Cancellations should be announced through multiple channels, including some or all of:

- The **Club Facebook Page** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CheltenhamCC/>
- The **Club Strava Page** <https://www.strava.com/clubs/cheltenhamandcounty>
- The **Ride Spreadsheet** (so linking to the **Ride Calendar** and **Club Website**) https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/109VSJ1yGwp9KtYxO0su83d_GT8ku-vGtSi4NZRNeKc8/edit?pref=2&pli=1#gid=2

How to Communicate Cancellations

Cancellations are always going to be contentious. There will always be members who think we should go ahead. We should emphasise that riders can still go out if they want, but it is at their own risk. An example wording is shown below.

Saturday and Sunday (15/16 Feb) Rides Cancelled

Given the worsening forecast for Storm Dennis, the committee have reviewed and all club rides on Saturday and Sunday (15/16 Feb) are cancelled.

Any riders choosing to ride may do so at their own risk. However, the club cannot be held in any way responsible for any event arising, as it will no longer be a club ride. Please take extra care if you choose to ride.

⁷ A cancellation needs to be communicated to as many club members as possible, a re-route needs less.