

Spokes Action Update 5.11.13

This is a circular to emailable Spokes members. [If you recently sent us a change of email address, your change may not yet be in our database, so this message may go to your old address or possibly to both]

A. SPOKESWORKER 3.11.13... NEWS & LOTS OF THINGS TO DO, AS ALWAYS

Go to our Spokesworker page...

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/spokesworker/>

or open the pdf direct here...

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2009/09/spwkr13.11.01.pdf>

B. FOR YOUR DIARY - 19 NOVEMBER SPOKES PUBLIC MEETING - CYCLING INVESTMENT

Full details here...

www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/2013/10/cycling-investment-spokes-autumn-public-meeting/

C. LOCAL POLICING PLANS - PLEASE TAKE PART

Local Policing Plans are being drawn up for 2014-2017 in (we think) all council areas within Scotland. These will decide policing priorities both for the whole council area and also for individual wards within each council area. The priorities will depend in part on public feedback. They are prepared by the police, jointly with the local council.

If you are concerned about issues such as **road safety, how it is tackled, bike theft**, etc, *please have your say* for your area's Local Policing Plan. In Edinburgh there is a series of drop-in consultation sessions across the city throughout November, starting Nov 8 in South Queensferry and ending Nov 29 in Wester Hailes...

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2009/05/1311-police-plan-consultn-dropins.pdf>

We don't know the arrangements in other councils - contact your local police

<http://www.scotland.police.uk/your-community/>

and/or your local council to find out their consultation arrangements.

We have put more about this, particularly the Edinburgh consultation, on our website...

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/2013/11/policing-plan-spokesworker/>

D. CRIMEBUSTERS ROAD SAFETY CAMPAIGN

Also on road safety, Crimebusters is running a Scottish campaign seeking anonymous reports of drivers who are disqualified, uninsured, under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, or otherwise flouting the law. The campaign is firmly backed by Police Scotland and the Scottish Government. For more details and links, see the last part of the same article...

<http://www.spokes.org.uk/wordpress/2013/11/policing-plan-spokesworker/>

E. RED SURFACING

Spokes is concerned that the Council has still not replied to our discussion paper, submitted in April. Meanwhile the red-chipping method is being routinely used, although its brightness is questionable in many lighting conditions and it is costly where a road is not anyway being resurfaced (in that case it is very cheap). Please contact your councillors if this concerns you. For more details see the article in the new Spokesworker [A above].

F. PLANNING APPLICATION CYCLEROUTE COMMENTS NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 8 (AND 12)

By Nov 8 and 12 - Morningside to Myreside - A new pedestrian/cycle route is proposed, but the plans need speeded up or may be many years coming to fruition, and the proposed connections need improved. You can help!!

By Nov 8 - West Harbour Road, Granton - An east-west cycleroute along the north side of West Harbour Road is vital - help us get it added to these plans.

More details on both these proposals in the new Spokesworker [A above] on page 2.

G. EDINBURGH COUNCIL BUDGET - PLEASE COMMENT IF YOU'VE NOT DONE SO YET

The Council is seeking comments on the early stages of its 2014/15 budget process. There is online info and a feedback form...

www.budget.edinburgh.gov.uk

Please respond to this council survey.

The consultation is very much in outline terms and cycling is not specifically mentioned, but it is vital for us that the council continues its policy of allocating 5%, increasing 1% a year, of the transport budget to cycling. It is 6% this year, 2013/14 and should be 7% in the 14/15 budget. Remember too that much of this money is doubled, as the council can use it to get match-funding from Sustrans (who in turn get their money from the government).

H. MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS - CONSULTATION EXHIBITIONS

There is a whole set of consultation exhibitions at the PAN (pre-planning-application) stage for major developments in several parts of the city, on various dates in November and December. Find the details and exhibition dates in the new Spokesworker [A above] on page 2, column 2. There may be a major development affecting you!

Dave du Feu
Spokes 5 November 2013