

from: Peter Hawkins <peterhawk@phonecoop.coop>
to: Katie.Dixon@ch2m.com
cc: Spokes PG <spokes-lothian-planning@googlegroups.com>
date: 29 May 2017 at 16:02
subject: CEC consultation on provision of taxi and PHVs

Dear Katie,

I'm responding on behalf of Spokes, the Lothian Cycle Campaign.

I'm puzzled because the survey I saw earlier included questions about driver behaviour and other matters such as air quality, which do not appear in the current online version of the survey.

However, in brief, our concerns are:

1 driver behaviour: taxis behaving unpredictably - pulling out, or doing sudden U-turns - especially PHVs. The drivers probably wouldn't do this if a vehicle was approaching but with pedestrians and cyclists they just think they can get away with it.

Both taxis and PHVs are regularly observed exceeding the 20mph speed limit. We would like to see them setting a good example to other drivers. The sight of a taxi 'leading' a convoy of vehicles which would otherwise be going faster would be something of a miracle.

Taxis and PHVs should be fitted with GPS and recording devices, so that their speeds could be related to their location; violations could thus be recorded and monitored. This would likely have a profound effect on behaviour.

2 air quality and emissions: there is [a separate consultation on this](#), but we are especially concerned about the role played by taxis and PHVs; vehicles whose performance "on the road" (as against "official" claims) exceeds current limits should be removed from circulation.

Yours sincerely,
Peter Hawkins
Spokes Planning Group