

## Note of meeting

### Active Travel Forum

10.00am Tuesday 21 June 2016

#### Present:

##### Elected Members

Councillor Hinds (Convener)

##### Organisation Representatives

Ewan Renton (sub for Dave De Feu)(Spokes), Henry Whaley (Gogarburn Bicycle Users Group), John Bratton (Ramblers), Kim Harding (Festival of Cycling), Tim Higgins (sub for Lisa Freeman) (SesTRAN), Emma Roy (Lothian Buses), Martin Higgins (NHS Lothian), Peter Hawkins (CTC)

##### Public Members

Barbara Knowles (short-life member Roseburn), Robert Smart (short-life member Roseburn)

##### City of Edinburgh Council Officers

Gavin Sheriff (Professional Officer – Walking), Phil Noble (Snr Professional Officer – Transport), Sean Webster (Sports Officer), Andrew Easson (Transport Manager), Alan Tinto (Transport Officer – Cycling), Adrian O’Neill (Professional Officer – Transport), Aileen McGregor (Committee Services)

## 1. Introduction

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Councillor Hinds welcomed members of the Active Travel Forum and introduced two new short-life members to the group Barbara Knowles (Roseburn Vision) and Robert Smart (Murrayfield Community Council) who had an interest in the traffic infrastructure at Roseburn / Murrayfield.

The Transport and Environment Committee agreed that there would be one forum in joint session. All political parties transport spokespersons would be invited to attend as for the Transport Forum.

## Decision

1. To note that there would be one forum for cycling and walking in joint session. All transport spokespersons would be invited to attend.
2. To note that 2 short life members have been invited to attend the Forum with regard to interest in the proposals for Roseburn area.

## 2. Note of Previous Meeting

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To approve the note of meeting of the Active Travel Forum of 3 March 2016 as a correct record.

## 3. Previous Forum and Updates

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### Bikes on Trams

Councillors Hinds advised the Forum that a pilot scheme was in operation allowing bikes on trams during off-peak periods. She updated the group on plans to continue this during the Festival period at the discretion of the guards, rather than a blanket ban.

### Inverleith Active Travel Group

Meeting scheduled for 24 June 2016 was not going ahead. Cllr Hinds was going to raise the issue of widening footways at Warriston Crematorium. She advised that this would be very expensive and was a challenging issue.

Councillor Hinds would also raise the issue of visibility at the bridge near Warriston at the next meeting of the group.

### Active Travel Forum

Wheelchair users with MS have been consulted with regarding dropped kerbs. Further consultation is required with MS organisations regarding issues around mobility scooters on buses.

### Dropped Kerbs

A dropped kerb database was being created and would be completed over the summer. There were a number of reports of huge puddles developing around areas where kerbs had been dropped.

### Mobility Scooters on Buses

A trial had been run to accommodate mobility scooters on buses. It was advised that there were different classes of scooters, and that at present it was not possible to accommodate them all. New style buses would be coming into force which should be able to take them.

### Smarter Choices, Smarter Places

This organisation promotes cycling and walking. The Council had submitted a successful application and had been awarded £642,663 match funding.

Finance and Resources Committee had approved the start of the procurement process for Travel Planning Consultants in June.

### Living Streets

A public meeting was scheduled at Friends Meeting House, Victoria Terrace on Tuesday 28 June, 6 – 8 pm.

### Community Links Awards

The Council was advised on 26 May 2016 that all transport projects applications were successful and attained a full award, partial award or a provisional award. See below.

#### **Construction Projects 2016/17 – Full Awards**

20mph / Cycle Parking	£630,000
Forthquarter – Silverknows Promenade	£ 50,000
Braid Hills Drive segregated cycleway	<u>£ 80,000</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£760,000</b>

#### **Construction Projects 2016/17 – Partial / Provisional Awards**

The Causey Project	£269,570 (match funding)
A8 Gyle – Newbridge (Phase 2)	£150,000 (design work)
Marchmont Road – Kings Buildings PH1	£150,000 (design work)
Map Boards / Courtesy signage	<u>£ 25,000</u> (design work)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£594,570</b>

#### **Community Links – Design – Full Awards**

Salveson Steps replacement	£ 40,000
Stockbridge Town Centre	£ 12,500
Roseburn Path – Leith Walk via George Street	£175,000
Roseburn Path – Union Canal	£175,000
Placemaking design package	£ 70,000
Cycle Scheme design package – Central/Street Design Guidance	£ 45,000
Cycle Scheme Design Package – North East	£ 70,000
Cycle Scheme Design Package – North West	£ 85,000
Cycle Scheme Design Package – West	<u>£ 72,500</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£745,000</b>

#### **Decision**

To note the updates.

## 4. The Considerate Use of Shared Paths - Presentation

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Allan Tinto, Cycling Officer provided a presentation on the considerate use of shared paths. The theme of the presentation for discussion was 'how do we improve user behaviour on shared paths'.

Allan provided statistics for Edinburgh residents who cycled to work, this was estimated at 7.3% in 2015 and the target for 2016 was set at 15%. 8% of all correspondence since 2012 was in relation to behaviours of path users. Allan reported that there was 123 miles of pathways within the city. The issues related to speeding cyclists, anti-social behaviour of cyclists, dogs not on leads or not under close control and the possible introduction of courtesy signage.

Issues for path users were broken down into Issues for pedestrians (including dog walkers) and issues for cyclists.

Pedestrians issues with cyclists included: speeding, not using their bell, dangerous manoeuvres, not being visible at night, not giving way, not keeping to the left.

Issues for cyclists included: dogs not under control – off the lead or extended leads, dog fouling, pedestrians not taking care where they were going, walkers listening to music or engaged with phone, pedestrians not giving way to cyclists, pedestrians not keeping to the left.

Examples of existing signage were shown. The Forum were asked to consider if changing the tone of the signs would benefit users and also which medium would be most effective. The City of Edinburgh Council's Street Design Guidance allows for segregation of paths if the path is wider than 3 metres. Pavement usage was covered under legislation – general footways are pedestrian only and the North East Path Network was governed by the Land Reform Act. Some potential new messages were presented for consideration, messages for cyclists / walkers / general.

Potential mediums were suggested: permanent signage, temporary signage, social media, physical measures, personal intervention. Images of current poor signage were shown.

Portobello promenade and the canal were two examples of stress points for path users.

### Decision

Feedback would be provided at the next meeting of the Forum.

## 5. The Proposed Roseburn to Leith Walk Cycle Scheme Consultation Results - Presentation

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Phil Noble provided an update of the Proposed Roseburn to Leith Walk Cycle Scheme Consultation Results.

Phil advised of the consultation process, preliminary design consultation took place between November 2015 – February 2016. There were six main feedback options: An online questionnaire, paper leaflets, public exhibitions, letters, emails and social media. Two petitions were received in this regard.

For the purpose of the analysis the route had been split into nine sections:

1. Roseburn Terrace (between Roseburn Park and Roseburn Bridge)
2. West Coates (between Roseburn Bridge and Magdala Crescent)
3. Haymarket Terrace
4. Palmerston Place Area (West End including Rosebery Crescent, Grosvener Crescent, Landsdowne Crescent, Palmerston Place and Bishop's Walk)
5. Melville Street (including Manor Place and Melville Street)
6. Walker Street to Rutland Square
7. Queensferry Street to Charlotte Square (via Randolph Place and Randolph Lane)
8. St Andrews Square to York Place
9. St Andrews Square to Princes Street.

There was a total of 2,771 responses:

Online Questionnaire	2,247,	Leaflet questionnaire	118
Stakeholders	20	Emails	150
Letters	235	Other (facebook)	1

1,768 (66%) responses were positive and 900 (34%) were negative.:

**Main positive comments included:**

“These proposals show determination by Edinburgh Council to invest in the long term health and well being of citizens of this city.”

“Roseburn currently is not people-friendly and is dominated by traffic, these priorities need to change.”

**Comments raising concerns:**

“Volume of traffic is bad enough already and again interfering with road layouts is going to bring traffic to a standstill.”

“Why not go along Shandwick Place, this is a much more direct route.”

**Area of Concern:**

Concern mainly focussed on the west end of the route, particularly Roseburn.

Key Concerns: additional congestion, reduction in loading opportunities for businesses, Russel Road/Roseburn Street

Designs for Roseburn had been re-examined and two alternatives option (a) and option (b) had been suggested. A petition was put forward proposing an alternative design to the Councils proposals.

Option A – retains the cycle way, moved a few things and loading was back in. Zebra crossing at Russel Road/Roseburn Street.

Option B – takes cycling routes away. Roseburn Terrace stays the same. Not a good route – 3 crossings instead of one. Every single business would be advised.

### **The next steps**

#### 1. Further Consultation

Walkabout of the Roseburn Area with Murrayfield Community Councillors

1 to 1 business meetings – businesses at Roseburn and Haymarket will be visited individually

West End Community Council and New Town and Broughton Community Council briefings (to be aranged)

#### 2. Report to August 30 Transport and Environment Committee.

The project is currently called: Roseburn to Leith Walk. Suggested alternative: City Centre West to East Link.

Further analysis is detailed in the summary consultation report on the council's webpage:

[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20135/cycling\\_projects/1209/roseburn\\_to\\_leith\\_walk\\_cycle\\_route](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/20135/cycling_projects/1209/roseburn_to_leith_walk_cycle_route)

Responses were invited from Lothian Buses, cyclists and pedestrain groups.

[CyclingProjects.Consultation@edinburgh.gov.uk](mailto:CyclingProjects.Consultation@edinburgh.gov.uk)

Scotrail and the emergency services had not objected to the proposals.

Other issues taken into consideration included HGV access route to Russell Road (Waste Services). The taxi rank at Haymarket. Discussions with Scotrail with regard to better access and better options for passengers were ongoing.

Both options had gone through traffic modelling. There was confidence that Option A could take the volume of traffic but it was acknowledged that it wouldn't reduce congestion. There was a suggestion that the traffic lights be altered at that area. Other hot spots at Balgreen and Gorgie were highlighted.

It was noted that West Coates to Roseburn was very heavily used by buses and it was suggested this should be considered a priority with the possible addition of a new pedestrian crossing.

West Mayfield Avenue was a concern for cyclists – officers advised that there were routes on quiet roads, and that there was no change on Corstorphine Road.

For clarification it was confirmed that there had been no SRU application.

Responses from Survey Monkey have been outlined – there had been 12 responses to date. Feedback from the survey would be sent to members of the group for information, it was noted that there would be potential to add issues in at a future date.

All elected members were being briefed.

### **Decision**

#### 1. To note the presentation.

- To note that feedback / suggestions would be circulated to members for information.

## 6. Future Active Travel Forum Meetings

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Forum members had been invited to submit suggestions for discussion at future meetings. See below.

### For All

- Budget allocation for cycling and walking
- The use of cobbles/setts around the city
- Movement along and across busy streets
- Presentation from Abellio Scotrail
- Mobility scooters on public transport

### For Walkers

- Prioritisation of pedestrians at crossings
- Improve walking routes to popular bus stops
- Controlling Street Furniture e.g. A Boards

### For Cyclists

- Bike and public transports
- Red chips in cycle lanes and research on colour blindness

### Other Suggested Topics

Joint Traffic lights and inter-green phases

Joint Enforcement of 20mph

Joint Road and pavement maintenance in residential areas

Walk Walking friendly signs at key points showing walking distances

Walk Data on popular walking routes – not for bus stops

Cycle Bike Hire

Cycle Quality of cycle lane maintenance

Cycle Progress on route improvements

### Draft Future Programme

September 2016	1	Walking and Cycling Budgets
	2	Shared Use Paths Part 2
December 2016	1	Presentation from Abellio Scotrail
	2	Bikes on public transport
1 <sup>st</sup> 2017	1	Prioritisation of pedestrians at crossings
	2	Controlling street furniture i.e. A Boards
2 <sup>nd</sup> 2017	1	Use of cobbles / setts
	2	Improve walking routes to bus stops
3 <sup>rd</sup> 2017	1	Mobility scooters on public transport
	2	Movement along and across busy streets

[www.edinburgh.gov.uk/activetravelforum](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/activetravelforum) contains dates for future meetings and documents from previous meetings.