

LEITH WALK, McDonald Road to Pilrig Street

Spokes comments on TRO 15/29

17.11.15

We very much welcome the scheme as a whole and feel it will have a very positive effect on local cycling levels and on the perception of cycling in the city.

We have previously made comments on consultations about the scheme and are pleased that some of our comments have been taken up by the design team. We remain of the opinion that some further simple changes could substantially improve the cycle lanes without having any adverse affect on other modes of transport or costing more money, and have highlighted a couple of these points below.

1. The southbound segregated cycle lane should start before the junction with Pilrig Street. This would allow cyclists heading south on Leith Walk to have a green light when traffic is emerging from Pilrig Street, halving the time that southbound cyclists spend waiting at this junction and significantly improving the experience for cyclists here.
2. Cyclists on the segregated lanes should not have to give way to minor side roads. We understand that these give way lines are there as the council is cautious as to whether it is safe to give priority to the cycle lanes. There are many examples from London, Leicester, Glasgow and Edinburgh of priority being given to cycle lanes over side roads without causing safety issues, and we hope that similar priority will be given here.

We believe the cycle lanes will be a great success, but would encourage the council to make these positive changes to the design in order to further improve the scheme. We also hope that the next phase, continuing these segregated lanes to and through Picardy Place, will be undertaken as soon as possible.

Best wishes,
Tom Kempton, on behalf of Spokes