

Notes for Spokes Hustings, Monday 21 March, Group 3.

Alison Johnstone, Green

She says the Green Party has committed to the Walk/Cycle/Vote 'Ask' of 10% of the travel budget to cycling and walking, within the lifetime of the next parliament.

She would also like to see more of the transport budget allocated to fixing potholes than to new build.

She is in favour of introducing 'presumed liability'.

She would like to see on-road cycle training in schools as part of the Curriculum for Excellence.

Jim Eadie, SNP

He says the SNP is unlikely to commit to the Walk/Cycle/Vote 'Ask' of 10% of the travel budget to cycling and walking, though he supports it personally.

He says the government needs to do more to bring local councils together to discuss active travel.

He is excited about the new Exemplar award.

He argues that you will get more return pound-for-pound for investment in cycling than in anything else.

He is in favour of introducing 'presumed liability'.

Sandy Batho, Conservative

He does not believe in allocating a fixed percentage of the travel budget to cycling and walking.

He argues that it might be better to allocate more of the travel budget to fixing potholes, which would improve life for both cyclists and motorists.

(He did not answer a question about why one could not do both of these things.)

He is generally in favour of 20mph zones, but has some concerns about specific routes. He thinks that there may be too many 20mph zones in Edinburgh. He believes bus routes should not be restricted to 20mph.

Sarah Boyack, Labour

She supports the Spokes proposal of transferring 1% of the trunk road budget to cycling. The Cross-Party Cycling group has adopted this policy.

She notes the Cross-Party Cycling group has not adopted the Walk/Cycle/Vote 'Ask' of 10% of the travel budget to cycling and walking.

She does not know what support for cycling will be in the Labour manifesto.

She would not abolish the air tax as the SNP are doing.

Emma Farthing-Sykes, Liberal Democrat

She says that the Lib Dem 'pre-manifesto' supports the Walk/Cycle/Vote 'Ask' of 10% of the travel budget to cycling and walking.

She notes that transport accounts for one-quarter of carbon emissions.

She is also pushing for increased use of electronic vehicles.

As a cyclist, she is personally concerned about exposure to carbon monoxide while cycling.

She argues that we should make public travel cheaper, it is ludicrous that in many situations travelling by car is cheaper than travelling by train. We should ensure it is always the case that rail travel is less expensive than car.

She supports 20mph limits in Edinburgh.