

QR20 Easter Road consultation

<https://consultationhub.edinburgh.gov.uk/sfc/design-cycle-walk-easter-road/>

Overview

This consultation gives people the opportunity to express their views about proposed initial designs for cycling and walking improvements on Easter Road.

These designs are part of planned improvements to the cycling route, called QuietRoute 20. This route forms part of the QuietRoutes Network that is being implemented across Edinburgh. The aim of the network is to provide routes that are easy, safe and convenient to use by people of any level of cycle experience. It will also improve conditions for people walking.

Spokes response 17 November 2016

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cc: Spokes <spokes@spokes.org.uk>
date: 17 November 2016 at 10:01
subject: Easter Road cycle/walk consultation

This is Spokes' response to the improvements to Quiet Route 20 where it crosses Easter Road.

This looks all right for eastbound cyclists, but westbound ones will have to make three road crossings, two of them awkwardly close to junctions. We would prefer a single cycle lane in each direction, with a crossing south of Bothwell Street to the same design (rotated 180°) as the one north of Brunswick Road - but banning left turns out of Bothwell Street may not be practical as there is no alternative car route to the south. I expect there is room for two cycle lanes if the west pavement is straightened out: the only snag is the presence of the bus stop, though that could be moved to south of Bothwell Street.

If two light-controlled crossings that close together is awkward, tigers could be used instead. There is another light at the Albion Road junction.

If the single crossing of Easter Road is included, so westbound cyclists have to cross over on the wrong side of Brunswick Road, it would be sensible to make that end of Brunswick Road one-way westwards with a contraflow cycle lane. (Brunswick Road is not quite wide enough for two traffic lanes and parking both sides, but there is plenty of room for a cycle lane.) It would also ensure that cars could not turn left from Brunswick Road into Easter Road.

I believe the council has plans for converting the Powderhall railway to a cyclepath when it closes. That may be a few years away, but it may be less controversial and easier to implement than on-street changes. If it goes ahead, there will be less need for elaborate cycle facilities here.