

Two points *in red* where they'd welcome feedback from Spokes.

Questions not on the agenda that I raised at various points...

A. Bikes on trams Although the experiment to allow bikes on trams during the Festival (subject to available space) was successful, I had noticed that the trams website still says there is a total ban.

Lesley Hinds – will speak to the tram operators.

B. Cycling in 1-way streets What has happened to the consultants' report on this, for which money was allocated back in the 15/16 budget, and which had been promised at the last forum?

Phil Noble – it is now largely complete. He will bring it to the next forum or possibly circulate it sooner.

C. Parking in cycle lanes What has happened to the consultants' report on this, for which money was allocated back in the 15/16 budget, and which had been promised at the last forum?

Phil Noble – it is now largely complete. He will bring it to the next forum or possibly circulate it sooner.

D. Audit of cycle facilities on main roads What has happened to the consultants' report on this, for which money was allocated back in the 15/16 budget?

Phil Noble – a lot of relevant material will be in the above report on parking in cycle lanes.

E-W route, next steps

- Detailed design begins next week. Will be 'stakeholder involvement' but rather than the previous stakeholder group they *may* instead – or also - have local-area meetings or they may request a session at relevant community council meetings. Nothing on the arrangements is definite yet. I didn't get a chance to ask how this would affect our input, but might be worth Richard checking to ensure involvement.
- Summer 2017 – start TRO process
- 2018 – start construction

Audit of dropped kerbs and guardrail

This has been done for – I think – the whole area within the city bypass. It is totally digitised, with lots of info and a photo of each – very impressive. They will be linking it to Street Design map which shows the features of every street. The maps can be used by officers, consultants, etc. They *may* also be made publicly available.

All guardrails are to be assessed this year – I asked re replacement bike parking and they said this will definitely be part of the assessment.

Smarter Choices 17/18 budget

Council can apply for up to £450K from govt behaviour change money (via Paths for All). **This cash is only for Behaviour change, not infrastructure.** Last year used for workplace initiatives, publicising 20mph, events and marketing of routes. [*We also got a few £1000 from it towards our Favourite Routes booklet and our Edinburgh bike map*].

They want suggestions before 23 Jan for projects, large or small to use the cash this year.

Capital road renewals

Making a much more coherent attempt to incorporate cycle facilities and will be done in line with the council's street design guidance. Where the project is for full resurfacing (rather than just surface dressing) they will consider major options such as segregated cyclist routes.

Therefore particularly important for planning group members to scrutinise the resurfacing list and send in any suggestions.

Cycle projects for 17/18 budget

The map which had been circulated was prepared very quickly for the meeting and 'probably' had several mistakes – omission of Roseburn etc on the map was a regrettable mistake. The meeting did not discuss the map – it was just one slide up for a minute or two to give a rough impression. However we were told the cycle team's current thoughts on priorities for 17/18, namely...

- Work on E-W route (presumably this is the detailed design, plus start work in early 2018 ???)
- Meadows-canal
- North Ed Network, extensive improvements (e.g. 9? ramps at current step-only accesses)
- Upgrade the signed routes – presumably this means implementing some of this year's small consultations
- Marchmont – KB
- Fountainbridge & Dundee St

We can email Phil if we have comments or think these are not priorities – I felt they were a reasonable set.

Council applications to Sustrans CL+ competition

The request for bids was sent out by Sustrans at short notice and Council only had a few weeks to decide bids. All 3 have been shortlisted by sustrans...

- Enhanced E-W route (more connections etc)
- Meadows – George IV Bridge – George St
- West Edinburgh (Gyle) mini-Holland scheme, plus link to E-W route

There are no details publicly available on these bids (other than the minimal descriptions on Sustrans CL+ web page). More is likely to become available in Feb when Sustrans cuts down the shortlist further.

Workshop

Finally, we had a workshop (3 tables with 10 or so people on each) to identify...

A. Quick & cheap city-centre wins (not requiring legal orders).

I suggested Princes St bike parking – was told this would be happening anyway, probably March.

B. Very Major projects for the next council to consider for its 5-year (4-year?) term

Our table decided top issue was **Princes St**; Secondly **Lothian Rd** and **George IV Bridge** (Meadows-GeorgeSt)

Space would be need for cyclerroutes & wider pavements. In Princes St, could only be achieved by major bus changes; in Lothian Rd / G IV Br could be done by removing traffic lanes and parking.

Our table coordinator (from the Council) asked what we thought of removing traffic entirely from the Mound – so I wonder if that is in their CL+ bid?

Finally

This may be the last Forum before the election, so I took the chance publicly to thank Lesley Hinds for her leadership and achievements, including the 10% cycle budget, E-W route all-party agreement, school streets, 20mph, etc. David Hunter thanked her from the pedestrian perspective.

Staffing

During coffee I asked Phil Noble about cycle/AT team staffing – they have a new person in post from Jan, and have just interviewed for another. However one existing cycle team member is moving to another post in the council. So overall they are now better than last year, but still not up to full complement. He is happy for us to highlight staffing issues whenever we are in touch with councillors.