

Note of meeting

Active Travel Forum

10am Thursday 19 January 2017

Present:

Elected Members

Councillors Hinds (Convener) and Bagshaw.

Organisation Representatives

Peter Hawkins (Cycling UK), Dave De Feu (Spokes), David Hunter (Living Streets), David Monaghan (Bicycle User Group), Kim Harding (Festival of Cycling), Barbara Knowles (Roseburn Vision), Robert Smart (Murrayfield Community Council), Kirsty McDonald (Paths for All), Gary Bell (Paths for All), Henry Whaley (Gogarburn Bicycle Users Group), Isobel Leckie (Causey Development Trust), Anna Ronayne (Sustrans), Martin Higgins (NHS Lothian), Jennifer Fingland (Cycling Scotland), Esmond Sage (Cycling UK).

Public Members

Guillaume Evrard, Jimmy Milhench, Richard Pearson, Jane Walker.

City of Edinburgh Council Officers

Phil Noble (Active Travel Team Leader), Adrian O'Neill (Engineer – Transport) and Allan Tinto (Transport Officer – Cycling), John Millar (DA to Councillor Hinds), Bryan Mackie (Professional Officer – Active Travel), Judith Cowie (SCSP Manager); Sean Webster (Sports Officer); Anna Rowell (ATAP Senior Project Officer)

1. Introduction

Councillor Hinds welcomed members of the Active Travel Forum to the meeting and outlined the format of the meeting.

2. Minute

Decision

To approve the minute of 5 October 2016 as a correct record.

Matters Arising

3.1 Dropped Kerbs

The Responsible Parking (Scotland) Bill was being progressed through the Scottish Parliament. The Bill would restrict parking at dropped kerbs, on pavements and also prohibits double parking.

Transport Scotland had issued a consultation on the proposed content of the Bill with the Council's parking team being the main liaison for the Council. If the Bill was enacted, this would remove the need for the Council to proceed with a blanket Traffic Regulation Order.

Decision

To note the update and to receive further progress updates to this Forum as required.

3.2 Structure of Active Travel Team

Staff appointments were still to be concluded within the Active Travel Team.

Decision

It was agreed to circulate details of the finalised active travel team structure, including officer names, to the Forum once the appointment process had been concluded.

3.3 Mobility Scooters on Buses

Information had been received from Transport for Edinburgh regarding mobility scooters on buses. The difficulty arises due to different classes and styles of mobility scooters and the current bus fleet is not able to accommodate them all. Once the new style buses are operational, all classes of mobility scooters should be able to be accommodated.

Decision

To note the update and to ask Lothian Buses for clarification on the types of mobility scooters they can accommodate at present.

3.4 Parking in Cycle Lanes, One Way Street and Main Road Works

An update was given on the following three review reports included in the 2015/16 budget:

- Parking in Cycle Lanes – survey conducted – not available in report form
- One Way Streets – report being updated but not yet published
- Main Roads Review – work not yet underway

Decision

To note the update and that further updates would be reported to the Forum as work progressed.

3. City Centre West to East Cycle Link Project

The Transport and Environment Committee, on 30 August 2016, had agreed the overall principles for the proposed City Centre West to East Cycle Links and Street Improvements and had established a Member/Officer Stakeholder Group to review a number of outstanding design issues relating to the project.

The Future Transport Working Group met on 16 December 2016 and based on group discussions had recommended to the Executive Director of Place that he take forward the amended scheme design for the Haymarket area and Option A as the preferred final design for the project at the Roseburn section.

Phil Noble provided the Forum with an update on progress. Traffic Regulation Orders and Redetermination Orders were expected to start in summer 2017 with the construction phase between 2018-2020 subject to those statutory procedures being concluded. Final decisions were still to be made on how to progress the TROs.

Consultation on each section of the cycle link design would be undertaken with relevant stakeholders.

The issue of air pollution, particularly in the Roseburn area was raised and assurances were given that this would continue to be considered prior to work on the cycle way commencing.

Decision

Officers to circulate an update on the Air Quality Action Plan to members of this Forum with particular reference to the position regarding the monitoring station at Roseburn.

4. Courtesy Signage and Code of Conduct

The proposed Code of Conduct had been issued to Forum members with a request that any views and or feedback to be returned to Allan Tinto, Cycling Officer by 27 January 2017. Feedback on the proposed Code had also been sought from the wider public.

Decision

To note the update.

5. Dropped Kerbs and Guardrail Survey

Adrian O'Neill provided an update on the audit survey work which had been undertaken to identify present/absent dropped kerbs and guardrails throughout the City. The survey work was carried out in line with the Active Travel Action Plan (ATAP) commitments and actions.

The Council's Parking Action Plan aimed to facilitate access and movement by mobility impaired people by using parking and loading restrictions to protect crossing points.

The purpose of the audit was to create an inventory identifying the presence/absence of dropped kerbs/raised tables, vehicle crossover and guardrails and their associated attributes.

In discussion, the following issues were raised:

- Waiting and loading restrictions to be considered as part of the programme of installing tactile paving on dropped kerbs
- Guardrails used as cycle parking should be replaced with appropriate cycle parking
- There are some situations where guardrails adjacent to traffic lights obstruct access to traffic controls.
- Some dropped kerbs have upstands which are too high.

Next steps in the process were to:

- Input data to Councils Roads Services Asset Management System
- Provide read-only usernames and passwords to Local Transport and Environment Managers, Designers and Consultants.
- Tie in with Street Design Guidance Map as a layer
- Develop a Strategic Approach (Programme of Improvement) for undertaking works and capturing changes

Decision

- 1) Officers to circulate a paper regarding the methodology to Forum members within the next 3 months.
- 2) Noted that comments would be invited from members on the paper prior to the next Forum in June.
- 3) Noted that the methodology would be discussed at next Forum in June and presented to the Edinburgh Access Panel.
- 4) Agreed to include Kirkliston/Queensferry and Rural West Edinburgh as part of the next phase of the survey.
- 5) Noted that data would be available to the general public on the Council's website once the audit had been concluded.

6. Smarter Choices, Smarter Places 2017/18

Judith Cowie, Smarter Choices, Smarter Places Programme Manager gave an update on progress with the SCSP application which was due to be submitted on 3 February 2017 to Paths for All. The indicative allocation for 2017-18 was £456,081.

The funding stream was for projects which aimed to change travel behaviour in a more active and sustainable way. The criteria stipulated a maximum of four projects which should be interconnected. Revenue funding was strictly for behaviour change, engagement and marketing of active travel.

The following projects for 2017-18 were proposed:

- Project 1 - Travel planning in workplaces - £150K
- Project 2 - Route marketing and events - £175K

- Project 3 – Research and Development - £50K
- Project 4 - 20mph marketing - £75K

Confirmation of the funding award was expected by 31 March 2017; projects would begin on 1 April 2017 and conclude on 31 March 2018.

The following points were raised:

- It would be useful to look into getting some funding to follow on the GIS survey work in Rural West Edinburgh
- Feasibility funding towards tenement cycle parking storage and safety with a view to looking at a possible grant scheme to allow tenement residents to progress this

Decision

- 1) Noted that Spokes had carried out a piece of work around tenement cycle parking storage and safety and would make this information available to the Forum members.

7. Cycling and Walking Capital Programmes

Phil Noble, Active Travel Team Leader outlined the SDG design approach which had been assigned to all 2017/18 capital projects. This included carriageway and footway renewals, road safety and active travel. Designers were required to consider all design recommendations for design approach.

All future Transport Programmes would be aligned to ensure a more “project” delivery approach. Locality transport schemes would also be included in the annual Transport Design & Delivery programmes.

Draft proposals for the cycling budget for 2017/18 were outlined. These included Focus on QuietRoutes, City Centre West to East Link and Meadows to Union Canal. Upgrades on routes already signed, cycle parking signing, some main road projects including Marchmont to Kings Buildings, Fountainbridge and Dundee Street.

Decision

- 1) Noted that three funding bids for ‘Community Links Plus’ had been submitted prior to Christmas 2016 and that all bids had been advanced to stage 2 of the 3 stage process.
- 2) Noted there was a special meeting of the Transport and Environment Committee planned for February 2017 to consider, amongst other things, the roads and pavements programme.
- 3) Officers to circulate the proposed programme of work to Forum members once it was available.

8. Workshop Session – City Centre Movement and Pedestrian Priority

Forum members engaged in a short workshop session to discuss and identify where “quick wins” could be made for the next year in terms of making things better for walking and cycling, what the next Council administration should be trying to achieve and streets in the city which should be prioritised to improve movement and pedestrian priority.

Decision

Noted that a summary of the conclusions arising from the workshop discussions would be circulated to Forum members.

9. Future Forum Topics

Decision

As previously agreed at the Forum meeting on 5 October 2016, the following topics would be included on the agenda for the next meeting:

- Planning Policy and parking at new developments
- Better fault reporting system for hazards: missing manhole covers, potholes, spills and sharps.
- Cycle parking

10. Dates of Next Meetings

15 June 2017

21 September 2017