

Spokes Cargobike support for Community Organisations

Thanks to some very generous donations from our members, Spokes is currently able to offer grants to community organisations towards the cost of purchasing a cargo bike (or cargo trike).

We are very keen to see more cargobikes around in Edinburgh and the Lothians towns, to demonstrate that environmentally positive methods of distribution are possible – and are coming!

Grants will normally be up to £500 or 50% of the cost, whichever is least, and are only available for organisations based in Edinburgh or the Lothians. Grants are entirely at Spokes discretion, but we are less likely to provide a grant if the main other source of funding is from a major body such as Sustrans or the Scottish Government, and more likely if other funding is through your own fundraising efforts.

We will normally expect the following conditions to apply – partly to help us be as sure as possible that the cargo bike will be fit for purpose, secure and well used.

- 1. You must assure us of secure storage and of theft insurance**
- 2. Your project should show evidence of continuity.** Normally we would expect the cargobike to be used to expand, replace or improve some existing purpose that you already undertake – not to be a completely new project where continuity and effectiveness are still unknown. In other words we are more likely to support a project which already has an established distribution, for example by van or by ordinary bike, and you wish to replace or expand these methods with a cargobike.
- 3. Your choice of cargo bike must be ok'd by Laid Back Bikes (proprietor David Gardiner).** It could be new or 2nd hand, and need not necessarily be purchased from or through Laid Back Bikes, but it must be considered by them to be suitable for the purposes you have for it. As one example, for certain tasks an e-cargobike may be essential, although this can be more costly.
- 4. You must have wording on the bike container acknowledging the Spokes contribution.** For example, *Bike supported by spokes.org.uk*
- 5. Once the cargo bike is in use** please send us, within 3 months, a short report of how you are getting on with it (*including any problems*) and one or two pictures of it in use.

Initial enquiries

Please email spokes@spokes.org.uk, with the following information...

- ◆ Your organisation's details, including website if any.
- ◆ How the cargobike would be used – including (2) above.
- ◆ How the cargobike would be stored and insured against theft.
- ◆ What other funds have you raised or are you intending to raise, and how?
- ◆ Are you happy with condition (3) above? [You do not need to speak to Laid Back Bikes until we give you a provisional OK, although you of course may if you wish].
- ◆ Are you happy with condition (4) above? [If the grant goes ahead we are happy to discuss the actual wording, and we expect to be fairly flexible].