

If replying by email, please use... davedufeu@gmail.com

To: Schools in areas covered by the map

Summer 2018

SPOKES WEST LOTHIAN CYCLE MAP **incorporating large areas of West Edinburgh**

With the 2018 edition of our cycling and walking map now published, Spokes is delighted to be able to donate multiple surplus copies of the previous (2012) edition free to local schools for educational purposes.

We have previously done this in Midlothian and in Edinburgh when new editions of those maps were published, and schools have found the maps very useful as class materials at a time when budgets are under great strain. Having multiple copies enables group or individual work on maps rather than just having one or two copies.

USE OF THE MAPS IN SCHOOL

The maps can be used in many ways in addition to their obvious uses for outdoor activities. For example...

Maths – A Midlothian teacher told us... *I plan to use them with my National 3 Maths Lifeskills classes for work such as measuring distances and applying/using a scale.*

Local history – A map owner told us... *I belong to a local history group, writing a history of the local shale industry. We need to include a modern outline map of the area – by far the best such map we have seen is the Spokes West Lothian map.*

Local geography – A teacher told us... *I would like to do a class project using the maps to plan some local cycle routes near our school. Indeed, by liaising with local councillors and grant-giving bodies such as [Sustrans Scotland](#) it might even be that some schemes could be implemented.*

Art/design – There is huge scope for discussing issues such as the colours and fonts used, what additional features could be added to the map – or removed – and so on, to maximise its usefulness for different types of user, whilst ensuring that it remains easily readable (not an easy balance to achieve!) Another interesting project would be to compare the maps with the current 2018 edition (see below), for students to identify and discuss changes both in the cycle facilities shown but also in the layout and design.

THE NEW 2018 EDITION

Our new map has been extensively updated and revised, with the whole area surveyed by Spokes volunteers, and also in liaison with the Council's transport department. Unlike the 2012 edition, it is on water- and tear-resistant paper. Schools receiving a free supply of the 2012 maps are asked to obtain at least one copy of the new edition; we hope this will be organised and funded centrally by the Council. However, additional copies are available either singly at £6.95 or in quantities of 6 or more at £4.60 each. To order, see spokes.org.uk/spokes-maps.

Clearly our donation of multiple copies of the outdated map should not be used in ways that might threaten sales of the new edition. They are strictly for educational purposes and should not be given out for students (or staff!) to use as home maps. Being 6 years old their value as a personal map is anyway limited.

We hope our donation will be a valuable contribution to your school and would greatly appreciate feedback on uses made of the maps.